



AP: PUERTO RICO OPEN TO RADICAL ECONOMIC FIXES

Page 12



STOCKS TANK ON JITTERS OVER TECH ROUT, EARNINGS

Page 25

Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Saturday, April 12, 2014



Obama: Right to Vote Under Threat in US

President Barack Obama speaks at Al Sharpton's National Action Network conference in New York, Friday, April 11, 2014.

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

NEW YORK (AP) — President Barack Obama on Friday said the Republican Party is threatening voting rights in America more than at any point since the passage of a historic 1965 law expanding rights at the ballot box to millions of black Americans and other minorities. Obama's critique of Republicans came as he seeks to mobilize voters ahead of the November midterm congressional elections, when Democratic control

of the Senate is at stake. Many in Obama's party fear state voting requirements and early balloting restrictions will curb turnout that is critical to Democratic hopes of prevailing. "The stark, simple truth is this: The right to vote is threatened today in a way that it has not been since the Voting Rights Act became law nearly five decades ago," Obama said in a fiery speech at civil rights activist and television talk host Al

Sharpton's National Action Network conference. It was the second day in a row that America's first black president has delivered a speech about race, an issue that has not often been at the forefront of his agenda. Obama has faced criticism from some African-Americans for doing too little to help minorities, but he has focused more acutely on inequality in his second term.

On Thursday, Obama marked the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, the landmark law that ended racial discrimination in public spaces. At the LBJ Library in Austin, Texas, he praised President Lyndon Johnson for his understanding of presidential power and his use of it to create new opportunities for millions of Americans. Johnson, the Democrat who became president after the assassination of John

F. Kennedy, signed the Civil Rights Act into law in 1964 and the Voting Rights Act a year later. For the remainder of the year, no political issue stands out more prominently for Democrats than their ability to motivate voters to turn out at the polls in the November midterm elections.

Continued on page 3

Australia PM:

Confidence up in Flight 370 search

**KRISTEN GELINEAU
ROB GRIFFITH**

Associated Press

PERTH, Australia (AP) — With the Malaysian jetliner mystery now five weeks old, officials have narrowed the search zone for the missing plane and are “very confident” the underwater signals they have heard are from its black

area and we are very confident that the signals that we are detecting are from the black box on MH370,” he told reporters in Shanghai, referring to the plane’s flight data and cockpit recorders. Search crews are racing against time because the batteries powering the recorders’ locator beacons

know the position of the black box flight recorder to within some kilometers,” Abbott said. “But confidence in the approximate position of the black box is not the same as recovering wreckage from almost 4½ kilometers beneath the sea or finally determining all that happened on that flight.”



A girl stands in front of a billboard for passengers onboard the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 at a shopping mall in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Friday, April 11, 2014. Authorities are confident that signals detected deep in the Indian Ocean are from the missing Malaysian jet’s black boxes, Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott said Friday, raising hopes they are near solving one of aviation’s most perplexing mysteries.

(AP Photo/Vincent Thian)

box, Australia’s prime minister said Friday.

At the same time, however, those electronic signals are fading, Tony Abbott added.

On a visit to China, Abbott briefed President Xi Jinping on the search for Flight 370, which vanished March 8 while flying from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing, carrying 239 people, most of them Chinese. Based on an analysis of satellite data, officials believe the Boeing 777 flew off-course for an unknown reason and went down in the southern Indian Ocean off the west coast of Australia.

Crews involved in the hunt have in recent days focused on a more-targeted area in the ocean for the source of the electronic signals, Abbott said.

“We have very much narrowed down the search

last only about a month — and more than a month has passed since the plane disappeared. Finding the devices after the batteries fail will be extremely difficult because the water in the area is 4,500 meters (15,000 feet) deep.

“We’re getting into the stage where the signal from what we are very confident is the black box is starting to fade,” he added. “We are hoping to get as much information as we can before the signal finally expires.”

The Australian ship Ocean Shield is towing a U.S. Navy device that detects signals from the flight recorders. Two sounds heard Saturday were determined to be consistent with the signals emitted from the black boxes. Two more sounds were detected in the same general area Tuesday.

“We are confident that we

Abbott told the Chinese leader that the next steps will be a “very long, slow and painstaking process.” An Australian air force P-3 Orion, which has been dropping sonar buoys into the water near where the Ocean Shield picked up the sounds, detected another possible signal Thursday, but Angus Houston, who is coordinating the search, said in a statement that an initial assessment had determined it was not related to an aircraft black box.

The Ocean Shield towed its ping locator to try to find additional signals Friday, and the Orions were continuing their hunt, Houston said.

The underwater search zone is currently a 1,300-square-kilometer (500-square-mile) patch of the seabed, about the size of the city of Los Angeles. □

White House declares no visa for Iran’s U.N. envoy

**MARK LANDLER
RICK GLADSTONE**

© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON

The Obama administration Friday said it would bar an Iranian diplomat nominated as U.N. ambassador from entering the country, in a rebuke to Iran at a time when the United States is engaged in delicate negotiations with Tehran over its nuclear program.

The unusual decision follows a political tempest on Capitol Hill related to the diplomat’s involvement in the 1979-81 Iran hostage crisis. But U.S. officials said they did not expect the decision to disrupt the nuclear talks, which involve five other major powers.

The White House and the State Department did not give a specific reason for refusing to issue a visa to the diplomat, Hamid Aboutalebi, who worked as a translator for the militant student group that stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in 1979 and held Americans hostage for 444 days.

On Tuesday, after the Senate voted unanimously to bar Aboutalebi from the United States, the administration said it had warned the Iranian government that his nomination was “not viable.”

The House unanimously passed the same legislation Thursday.

“We certainly share the intent of the bill passed by Congress,” said the White House spokesman, Jay Carney. “We have already told the U.N. and Iran that we will not issue a visa.”

Before deciding whether to sign it, President Barack Obama will review the constitutionality of the legislation, which would ban any would-be U.N. representative who has been involved in terrorism or espionage against the United States from entering the country, Carney said. Under a 1947 law that established the headquarters of the United Nations

in New York, the United States is obligated to issue visas to diplomats assigned there, even those it finds objectionable. But the United States has reserved the right to turn down people based on concerns over security, terrorism or foreign policy issues.

Administration officials did not dispute suggestions that Aboutalebi’s role in the hostage crisis was the cause of the action against him.

“I think it’s fair to say that the discussions around this, the reporting on it, the views expressed in the discussions on Capitol Hill, and in the legislation itself reflect our views,” Carney said.

In a statement on Friday, the Iranian Mission to the United Nations said, “It is a regrettable decision by the U.S. administration, which is in contravention of international law, the obligation of the host country and the inherent right of sovereign member states to designate their representatives to the United Nations.”

Aboutalebi issued his own criticism, saying on Twitter that the United States, “legally speaking, has initiated a new and unprecedented path, and that is to violate the international conventions of the country by national parliamentary approvals,” according to a translation of the message, which was written in Persian.

The dispute over Aboutalebi’s nomination came as the United States and Iran have sought to defuse some of their tensions, working on an agreement over the disputed Iranian nuclear program.

Administration officials, however, said the subject did not intrude on the last round of negotiations, held in Vienna, and they predicted that it would not affect the chances of an agreement, since the Iranian government had other motivations to conclude a deal. □

Obama: Right to vote under threat in US



Rev. Al Sharpton gestures as he speaks at the National Action Network conference, Friday, April 11, 2014, in New York.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

Continued from Front

A Republican takeover of the Senate would crush Obama's already limited ability to push his agenda through Congress. The Republicans are virtually certain to keep their majority in the House of Representatives, but the fight for the Senate is expected to be tight.

Turnout by Democrats has been traditionally weak in elections when the White House is not at stake. That, coupled with efforts in some states to limit early voting and to enact voter identification requirements, has prompted Obama and his party to

raise alarms and step up their get-out-the-vote efforts.

The president vowed that he would not let the attacks on voting rights go unchallenged, but he offered no new announcements of specific actions his administration planned to take.

Just last year, seven states passed voter restrictions, ranging from reductions in early voting periods to identification requirements, according to the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law. North Carolina alone adopted a photo ID requirement, eliminated registrations on Election Day and reduced

the number of early voting days. Overall 34 states have passed laws requiring voters to show some form of identification at the polls. The president pinned efforts to curb access to the ballot box directly on the Republicans, declaring that the effort "has not been led by both parties. It's been led by the Republican Party." Mocking the Republicans, he said, "What kind of political platform is that? Why would you make that a part of your agenda, preventing people from voting?"

Republicans have long argued that identification requirements and other voting controls are reasonable measures designed to safeguard the balloting

process, not to suppress voter turnout. Democrats say photo identification requirements especially affect minority or low-income voters who may not drive and thus wouldn't have an official government ID.

The North Carolina steps, which take effect in the 2016 election, came after the Supreme Court last June threw out the crucial section of the Voting Rights Act that required that all or parts of 15 states with a history of discrimination in voting, mainly in the South, get federal approval before changing their election laws. Attorney General Eric Holder has challenged the North Carolina election law, as well as one in Texas. □

GM slow to act on its recalls Congress documents show

DETROIT (AP) — Documents from a House of Representatives subcommittee show that General Motors CEO Mary Barra received an email about a steering problem in the Saturn Ion in October 2011 — more than two years before the car was recalled.

That email message was not related to a problem with an ignition switch that is at the heart of a separate recall of 2.6 million small

cars. That recall is the subject of a subcommittee investigation. GM has linked that problem to 13 deaths. The documents also show that a GM engineer signed off on changes to the defective switch without changing the part number, which made the problem harder to track. Also included is a 2013 email from federal regulators complaining that GM is slow to act on safety issues. □

EASTER FOOD SHOW

On Monday April 14, 2014
from 6pm to 9pm

Free Tasting and Incredible Specials
Kids Activities and Musical Guest:
Rincon Boys

LING & SONS
Super Center

THE #1 SUPERMARKET IN ARUBA

For more information please call (297) 583-2570
Open Monday to Saturday from 8am to 9pm.
Sunday from 8am to 6pm
www.lingandsons.com

FREE WIFI

Authorities seek cause of deadly California bus crash

TIMOTHY WILLIAMS

© 2014 New York Times

California authorities said Friday that it could take months to determine what caused the driver of a FedEx tractor-trailer to cross a grassy center divider and slam into a chartered bus full of high school students on a trip to a Northern California university.

The accident, which killed 10 people, including five students, and injured dozens, occurred Thursday evening on Interstate 5 in Orland, a town about 100 miles north of Sacramento. Both the FedEx truck and bus burst into flames.

The California Highway Patrol said the drivers of the bus and the truck were among the dead, but officials have released the name of only one victim, Arthur Arzola, 26, of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., one of three chaperons who died. At least one bus passenger remained in critical condition Friday. A total of 31 people were taken to seven hospitals after the crash, officials said.

Larry Jones, the sheriff and

coroner of Glenn County, said, "The impact was heard throughout the community," as far as a quarter mile away. A fire "with very high temperatures" broke out almost immediately after the impact, he said.

The students involved in the accident were taking part in Humboldt State University's Preview Plus, an annual program in which the university enables disadvantaged students who have been admitted to visit the campus. The 47 passengers on the bus were high school students and their chaperons from school districts from Southern California, including Los Angeles, Long Beach and Riverside. Lt. Scott Fredrick from the accident investigation team of the California Highway Patrol said investigators will examine whether the driver fell asleep or whether the truck had mechanical problems, among other possible factors. California investigators, he said, will work with a team from the National Transportation Safety Board.

By the time the California



Officers examine the burned skeleton of a bus involved in a Thursday evening accident on Interstate 5 in Orland, Calif. that killed ten and left dozens injured, on April 11, 2014. Authorities are unsure what caused the driver of a FedEx truck to swerve into oncoming traffic, where his rig struck the charter bus carrying Los Angeles area students to a preview week at Humboldt State University in Arcata.

(Jim Wilson/The New York Times)

Highway Patrol arrived, both vehicles were aflame, said Bruce Carpenter, the Highway Patrol commander for the area.

The worst of the flames had broken out near the front of the bus, and students were able to escape through a rear emergency door or by

kicking out bus windows, some of the children said on Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites. Most of those who died had been sitting near the front of the bus, the police

said. FedEx released a statement saying that it was "deeply saddened by the tragic highway accident" and that it was cooperating with the investigation. □

Police: No known target in school stabbing rampage

JOE MANDAK
Associated Press
MURRYSVILLE, Pennsylvania (AP) — No evidence has surfaced yet to show that a boy charged in a stabbing rampage at his high school was targeting any particular student, and efforts to establish a motive are stalled because the suspect isn't talking and many victims remain hospitalized, a police chief said Friday.

"At this point I don't have anybody that, you know, was targeted," Chief Thomas Seefeld said. "I know the issue of bullying has been brought up but his attorney has even said ... that bullying is not part of this and we have no evidence or reason to believe that it is."

Alex Hribal, 16, is accused of stabbing or slashing 21 students and a guard on Wednesday at the 1,200-student Franklin Regional High School east

of Pittsburgh. Charges against him include four counts of attempted homicide and 21 counts of aggravated assault.

Eight students remain hospitalized Friday, four in critical condition after one was downgraded, hospital officials said.

Hribal used two kitchen knives he brought from home,

his lawyer has said, in an apparent random attack on other students that began just minutes before the start of classes in a crowded hallway, setting off a stampede.

Police said Hribal flailed away with the knives down a long stretch of a hallway, leaving blood on the walls and floor.

Two of the most seriously wounded students were found in a classroom, but it was not known whether they had just sought refuge there or were attacked there, the chief said. □




FOR SALE

Condominiums & Villas

C: +297 5927275

T: +297 2801005

E: info@leventaruba.com

J.E. Irausquin Blvd. 244

Eagle Beach, Aruba

A luxurious residential complex built to the highest level, with quality finishes, bright spaces and all the details one could dream for in their home.

Walking distance to Eagle Beach and Spectacular Ocean View.

Aruba, Paradise in the Caribbean

Obama names health pick, veteran of fiscal battles

**MICHAEL D. SHEAR
DAVID S. JOACHIM
© 2014 New York Times**

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama said Friday that he was nominating his budget director, Sylvia Mathews Burwell, to lead the Department of Health and Human Services, as the administration tries to move beyond its early stumbles in carrying out Obama's health law.

If confirmed by the Senate, Burwell would succeed Kathleen Sebelius, whose five-year tenure was marred by the disastrous rollout of the federal insurance marketplace that is a centerpiece of the law. Sebelius' legacy, though, may well depend on whether Burwell and her successors can elevate public opinion of the law to a level matching programs like Medicare.

"What Kathleen will go down in history for is serving as the secretary of health and human services when the United States of America finally declared that quality, affordable health care is not a privilege but it is a right for every citizen," Obama said in a Rose Garden ceremony that featured several standing ovations for the embattled departing health secretary. The nomination of Burwell was expected. Burwell, 48, spent much of the last year mired in Washington's fiscal fights, including the standoff that led to a 15-

day government shutdown last fall. She also handled health policy as part of her job as Obama's budget chief.

Burwell, a West Virginia native with degrees from

work in the budget office, pointing to declining budget deficits and the divided politics of government that defined her short tenure.

"When the government was forced to shut down

last October, and even as her own team was barred from reporting to work, Sylvia was a rock, a steady hand on the wheel who helped navigate the country through a very challeng-

ing time," Obama said.

In her confirmation hearings, Burwell will almost surely have a tougher time than she had last year, when the Senate voted 96-0 to confirm her appointment as director of the Office of Management and Budget. Republican lawmakers remain fiercely opposed to the health care law, despite the administration's claim of success in signing up more than 7 million people for health insurance, and they are expected to use the hearings to press their case for a repeal of the law. Democrats running for re-election in the coming midterm elections have faced blistering attacks for their support of the legislation.

Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the minority leader and frequent critic of the health care law, issued a statement hinting at how Republicans would approach the confirmation hearing for Burwell.



President Barack Obama, flanked by outgoing Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, left, and his nominee to replace her, current Budget Director Sylvia Mathews Burwell, speaks event in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Friday, April 11, 2014, where he made the announcement.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

Harvard and Oxford, had several jobs in the Clinton administration, including deputy budget director. Before joining the Obama administration, she worked for charitable organizations including the Wal-Mart Foundation and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. She was also on the board of directors of the insurer MetLife.

Obama praised Burwell's

Woman accused of tossing shoe at Clinton is released

**KEN RITTER
Associated Press
LAS VEGAS (AP)**

Authorities say a Phoenix woman accused of throwing a shoe at Hillary Rodham Clinton during a Las Vegas speech has been freed after being given a misdemeanor disorderly conduct summons.

Prosecutors said Friday that 36-year-old Alison Michelle Ernst was freed by Las Vegas police after being questioned by U.S. Secret Service agents in the Thursday incident at the Man-

dalay Bay resort.

As Ernst was taken into custody, she said she threw a shoe and dropped some papers. She didn't say why. Ernst's jail booking photo shows she wore blonde wig at the time.

Ernst couldn't immediately be reached Friday. It wasn't clear if she had a lawyer.

Clinton wasn't struck by the shoe. She joked about the incident and continued with her talk to the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries.

WORLD WELTERWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

**PACQUIAO
BRADLEY II**

THE REMATCH
LIVE ON BIG SCREENS
ONLY AT

Champions®

SPORTS BAR
AND RESTAURANT

**SATURDAY
APRIL 12 • 9PM**

\$5 MARGARITAS • \$5 BALASHI DRAFT

Jeb Bush immigration remark could be 2016 problem

MICHAEL J. MISHAK

Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Jeb Bush has prompted questions about his viability as a potential presidential contender with a single phrase of compassion for immigrants in the U.S. illegally, underscoring how divisive the issue remains for the Republican Party.

The former Florida governor sparked a conservative furor this week when he described illegal immigration in an interview as an "act of love" by people trying to provide for their families. Backing Bush are some of the Republican Party's most powerful insiders and financiers, who are hoping the party can woo Hispanic voters and rebound from Mitt Romney's damaging "self-deportation" rhetoric in 2012.

"The worst thing that can happen to a political party is not for voters to decide they don't like you," said Alex Castellanos, a Republican consultant and former Romney adviser. "It's for voters to decide you don't like them. And that's where the Republican Party is right now."

Other Republican lawmakers and conservative activists, however, are cringing over Bush's remarks, which triggered vocal opposition and concerns about "amnesty."

"We appreciate the compassion in the statement, but the best compassion you can show a people is to uphold justice," said Tamara Scott, a Republican National committeewoman and prominent Christian conservative from early-nominating state of Iowa. Some in the Republican establishment are concerned immigration could define the coming nominating contest in the way it did the last one. Like Bush, Texas Gov. Rick Perry was jeered when he implied that his rivals were heartless if they opposed a law that lets some children of immigrants here illegally to pay in-state tuition at public colleges.

Romney took a hard line on immigration. He ultimately won just 27 percent of the Hispanic vote, the lowest portion for a Republican in 16 years.

The Republican National Committee has urged the



Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush speaks in Hollywood, Fla. With three little words, Bush set off a fury this week that served as a potent reminder of how difficult the immigration issue remains for the potential presidential contender and the GOP. The Republican establishment's preferred White House hopeful described illegal immigration as an "act of love" by people hoping to provide for their families. The backlash from his own party was swift and stinging.

(AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)

Republican Party to embrace an immigration overhaul, but comprehensive legislation remains stalled in Congress. Action is unlikely in an election year with high stakes. Republicans expect to hold the House and need to gain only six Senate seats to win majority control from Dem-

ocrats. While party leaders want to avoid an immigration fight that could alienate their core voters, some establishment Republicans say the delay threatens the long-term future of the party.

"It's going to kill the Republican Party," said Al Hoffman, a Republican mega-

donor who chaired George W. Bush's presidential campaigns.

He and others argue the party needs a nominee with a "Nixon-goes-to-China mentality" in which the party leader takes an audacious, if not popular, step on issues such as immigration.

Conservative firepower has Democrats on defense

NICHOLAS CONFESSORE

© 2014 New York Times

Democrats in races that will help determine control of the Senate are rapidly burning through their campaign cash, whittling away their financial advantage over Republican opponents as they fend off attacks from conservative groups, according to figures released through Friday.

The spending on both sides underscores the critical role that outside conservative groups are playing as Republicans try to retake the Senate. In state after state, organizations like Americans for Prosperity, the nonprofit linked to David and Charles Koch, have kept Democrats on the defensive with a barrage of negative ads while establishment-backed Republican candidates raise money and navigate their way through primaries.

In Alaska, the Democratic incumbent, Sen. Mark Begich, spent about as much money as he raised during the first three months of the year, while Dan Sullivan, a Republican candidate and former state attorney general, increased his fundraising and substantially narrowed Begich's advantage in cash on hand. In Montana, Sen. John Walsh, a Democrat, spent almost three-quarters of the money he raised since January, ending with about \$700,000. "The spending totals so far show that a lot of Democratic candidates find themselves on the run," said Brad Dayspring, a spokesman for the National Republican Senatorial Committee.

In the five battleground races where both candidates have reported their totals - Alaska, Montana, North Carolina, Colorado

and Louisiana - Democrats reported a combined \$25.2 million in cash on hand, compared with \$12.1 million for Republicans. The Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee had \$22 million more, compared with \$15.9 million for the Republican committee. "Up and down the map, Democrats are outpolling and out-fundraising their Republican opponents, and we enjoy cash-on-hand advantages at both the campaign and committee level," said Justin Barasky, a spokesman for the Democratic committee. Democratic outside groups, which largely held their fire in the fall, have begun to increase their spending on behalf of Senate candidates while the party moves aggressively to tie Republican candidates to wealthy donors like the Kochs.

For Sale in Gold Coast



PREMIER VILLA
Elegance and charm surrounds you from the moment you enter this magnificent villa. Tropical landscaped backyard, stylish Jacuzzi, outdoor shower, large garage and laundry. 3 Beds / 2.5 baths plus 2 balcony.

Listing # 981 \$ 997,500



DAIMARI VILLA
This luxurious Villa greets you with plenty of open space. The enclosed backyard offers a gazebo and a private swimming pool, a great area for family entertainment. Spacious kitchen, large dining and living room. 3 beds / 3 baths and private balcony.

Listing # 973 \$ 570,000



BUSHIRI TOWN HOME
A fusion of casual sophistication is borrowed from the Mediterranean and is seamlessly enhanced with a contemporary Caribbean touch. 2 beds / 3 baths, gourmet kitchen with granite counter, large dining/living room and landscaped backyard.

Listing # 1006 \$ 399,000

For more info please call:
Radisson - 586-6672 / 592-9780
Niek@coldwellbanker.aw
www.coldwellbanker.aw



US Financial Front:

America's producer prices rise 0.5 percent in March



Kolleen Irwin and her daughter Ariel, 3, shop for groceries at a Target store in Philadelphia. The Labor Department reported on U.S. producer prices in March on Friday April 11, 2014.
(AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The prices U.S. companies receive for their goods and services jumped in March led by gains for food, clothing, jewelry and chemicals. The producer price index, which measures price changes before they reach the consumer, rose 0.5 percent in March, the Labor Department said Friday. Overall inflation remains relatively tame. Producer prices increased 1.4 percent during the past 12 months.

Wholesale food prices rose last month, led by a 30.4 percent leap in the costs of hogs and 12.4 percent increase in poultry. Those increases were partially offset by a 2.4 percent decline in gasoline prices and a 0.7 percent drop for electric power. Excluding the volatile categories of food, energy and retailer and wholesaler profit margins, core prices ticked up 0.3 percent.

Some of the higher prices were due to a "distortion caused by the unusually bad weather" in previous months, said Paul Dales, senior US economist at Capital Economics. Snowstorms kept many shoppers at home and hurt retail sales. The margins of clothing wholesalers and retailers bounced back in March, rising by 3.3 percent to push up overall producer

prices.

Inflation has been near historic lows during the past two years. The producer price index rose just 1.2 percent in 2013 after a 1.4 percent increase in 2012. Both figures are far below the Fed's preferred target of 2 percent.

Stronger growth usually leads to higher levels of inflation.

But the economy has struggled to accelerate during the 4 1/2-year recovery from the Great Recession. Wage growth has been close to flat, while unemployment remains at historically high levels. This limits consumer spending and limits the ability of businesses to raise prices.

Low inflation has enabled the Federal Reserve to pursue extraordinary stimulus programs to boost spending, hiring and overall economic growth.

The Fed has begun to unwind some of that stimulus, although it intends to prolong its near zero short-term interest rates, in part, because inflation has been so low. The U.S. central bank has cut its monthly bond purchases to \$55 billion, down from \$85 billion last year. The bond purchases are aimed at lowering long-term interest rates to bolster growth.

The economy has started to improve after a winter slowdown. Employers added 192,000 jobs in March and 197,000 in

February, according to a last week. Snowstorms and into job gains in December government report issued freezing temperatures cut and January. □



Feeling lucky?

Join us at the Hyatt Regency Casino

Tuesdays

Double Points Slots from 10:00 AM to Midnight.

Thursdays

\$500 Spin & Win from 8:30 PM to Midnight.

Saturday April 19, 2014

\$1,000 Slot Tournament from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Double Points Friday April 18, 2014.

Saturday April 26, 2014

\$1,200 Blackjack Tournament from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Sundays

\$250 Spin & Win Progressive from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Cash Prizes

End of the month

Triple Points Slots from 10:00 AM to Midnight.



**HYATT
REGENCY®
RESORT**

For more information, please contact our Players Advantage Club at 586 1234 ext. 4583.

4 years after BP spill, questions on long-term health

KEVIN MCGILL
STACEY PLAISANCE
Associated Press

CHALMETTE, Louisiana (AP)

— When a BP oil well began gushing crude into the Gulf of Mexico four years ago, fisherman George Barisich used his boat to help clean up the millions of gallons that spewed in what would become the worst offshore spill in U.S. history. Like so many Gulf Coast residents who pitched in after the April 20, 2010, explosion of the Deepwater Horizon rig, Barisich was motivated by a desire to help and a need to make money — the oil had destroyed his livelihood.

Today he regrets that decision, and worries his life has been permanently altered. Barisich, 58, says respiratory problems he developed during the cleanup turned into pneumonia and that his health has never been the same.

"After that, I found out that I couldn't run. I couldn't exert past a walk," he said. His doctor declined comment. Barisich is among thousands considering claims

under a medical settlement BP reached with cleanup workers and coastal residents. The settlement, which could benefit an estimated 200,000 people, received final approval in February from a federal court. It establishes set amounts of money — up to \$60,700 in some cases — to cover costs of various ailments for those who can document that they worked the spill and developed related illnesses, such as respiratory problems and skin conditions.

It also provides for regular physical examinations every three years for up to 21 years, and it reserves a worker's right to sue BP over conditions that develop down the road, if the worker believes he or she can prove a connection to the spill. Some 33,000 people, including Barisich, are participating in a massive federal study that aims to determine any short or possible long-term health effects related to the spill.

"We know from ... research that's been done on other oil spills, that people one

to two years after ... had respiratory symptoms and changes in their lung function, and then after a couple of years people start to return to normal," said Dr. Dale Sandler, who heads

the study overseen by the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences, an arm of the National Institutes of Health.

"What nobody's ever done is ask the question: Well,

who did not," Sandler said. She cautioned that the findings were preliminary and added that it is too early to tell whether exposure to oil or chemical dispersants might account for



Bert Ducote shows the place where he had a boil lanced and another boil underneath his belly button that he claims are the result of being in direct contact with crude oil while performing cleanup work during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Photo taken at the Lake Catherine Marina in New Orleans.

(AP Photo/Andrea Mabry)

BLACKJACK TOURNAMENT

GO ALL-IN WITH \$500 IN CASH PRIZES!

\$5 BUY-IN

Saturdays
Registration 7pm
Tournament starts 8pm

Re-entry with every 25 points accumulated on your Trop Advantage® Card or \$5.

Management reserves the right to change or cancel promotions at their discretion. Must be 18 years of age or older. Must be a member of the Trop Advantage Club to participate. Play responsibly www.gamblersanonymous.org.



after five years or 10 years are people more likely to develop heart disease, or are they more likely to get cancer?" Sandler said in an interview with The Associated Press. "And I'm sure that's what people who experienced this oil spill are worried about."

At a Friday news conference, Sandler discussed some of the study's early findings. She said depression and anxiety are common in and around disaster sites, but there are indications that cleanup workers were more likely to suffer mild to moderate depression than others living in Gulf Coast counties and parishes where economies and livelihoods were affected by the spill.

"After we took into account where people lived and other factors, it does appear that the prevalence of depression was about 30 percent higher among those who had cleanup jobs than among those

the difference.

The researchers will try to account for smoking or other factors that could ruin health, and narrow in on problems tied to spill exposure. They plan to monitor the health of study participants for at least 10 years, maybe longer.

Fisherman Bert Ducote says he knows physical and emotional pain from having worked the cleanup. Ducote said dozens of boils have turned up on his neck, back and stomach since the spill — and he theorizes, though shared no medical records that could prove, that his problems stem from the cleanup.

Ducote said he spent months handling the boom used to corral oil. Even with protective gear and rubber boots, he said his shirt often got wet with the combination of crude oil, sea water and chemical dispersant. Ducote, like Barisich, said he is filing a claim under the medical settlement.



J.E. IRAUSQUIN BLVD. 248
Aruba, Dutch Caribbean
troparuba.com

TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT CASINOS | TROPICANACASINOS.COM





Hyatt Casino paid out over \$59,000 in only 2 weeks



Famous 777 paid \$5,009 within 1 hour with a bet of only \$10.



Douglas Martino won \$3,000 at The Phantom of the Opera with only a \$10 bet.



George Konis won \$5,015 within 10 minutes playing at the Famous 777 machine.



Richard Rinaldi won \$6,595 at the Quick Hit machine with a \$2 bet.



Greg de Troia won \$5,000 with a \$10 bet in only 15 minutes at the Famous 777 machine.



James Sclavunos won \$2,400 in only 40 minutes at the Poker Machine.



Jim Curran won \$7,785 playing at the Quick Hit machine with only a \$2 bet.



Ronald McCaslin Won \$3,600 in only 15 minutes at the Triple Diamond Machine.



Victoria Efferen won \$5,040 within 10 minutes playing at the Famous 777 machine.

Mustang Money paid out \$3,096 with only a \$4 bet.

Gaminator paid \$2,356 with only a \$1 bet.

Game King paid out \$4,000 in only 15 minutes with a \$5 bet.

Hyperlink Progressive paid \$3,971 in only 10 minutes with a \$1.25 bet.

Quick Hit paid out \$2,158 with just a \$2 bet.

Ukraine PM: Regions should have more powers

PETER LEONARD
Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) —

Ukraine's prime minister went on a charm offensive Friday as he visited the country's southeast, pledging to give regions more powers and to defend the rights of Russian speakers. Arseniy Yatsenyuk met with regional officials who once opposed his new government in Kiev, but not with protesters occupying government buildings in the cities of Donetsk or Luhansk. Still, he left it unclear how his ideas differed from the demands of the protesters or from Russia's advocacy of federalization for Ukraine. "There are no separatists among us," said Gennady Kernes, mayor of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, where the government recaptured a building taken over by protesters earlier in the week. Kernes and other officials asked Yatsenyuk to allow votes on autonomy for their regions but not on secession.

Ukraine's government has resisted federalization, saying that would lay the



Ukraine's prime minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, center, speaks during his meeting with regional leaders in Donetsk, Ukraine, Friday, April 11, 2014. Ukraine's prime minister on Friday told leaders in the country's restive east that he is committed to allowing regions to have more powers. Yatsenyuk Friday morning flew into Donetsk, where pro-Russian separatists are occupying the regional administration building and calling for a referendum that could prefigure seeking annexation by Russia.

(AP Photo/Efrem Lukatsky)

groundwork for the country's breakup. Ukraine's eastern industrial heartland was the support base for Kremlin-friendly president Viktor Yanukovich, who

was ousted in February after months of protests. Last month, the Crimea region voted to secede and was annexed by Russia — but only after Russia took over

the peninsula by force. Russia has ratcheted up the pressure on Ukraine, with President Vladimir Putin warning European leaders of a risk to the gas sup-

plies going to them through Ukraine. He has threatened that Russia could shut off energy shipments to Ukraine if it fails to pay its debts. □



EXCELSIOR CASINO

C · A · R · U · B · A

EXCELSIOR CASINO, located at Holiday Inn
The most complete gambling experience!!

- ★ POKER
- ★ SLOTS MACHINES
- ★ BLACK JACK

- ★ ROULETTE TABLE
- ★ CRAPS
- ★ BINGO



Lady Luck is waiting for you at **EXCELSIOR CASINO!**
For more information give us a call (297) 586-7777



10 TEN DOLLARS
1 coupon per person per day
EXCELSIOR CASINO
MATCH PLAY
GOOD ONLY AT BLACK JACK
EXCELSIOR CASINO LOCATED IN THE HOLIDAY INN ARUBA
10 TEN DOLLARS

Germany's Merkel, in Athens, praises Greek reform progress

NICHOLAS PAPHITIS
Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) —

Greece won praise Friday from German Chancellor Angela Merkel — the lead advocate of eurozone austerity — for its painful economic turnaround and successful return to markets. But Merkel added a polite reminder that the bailed-out country still wasn't out of the woods.

"Greece has honored its pledges," Merkel said at a news conference with Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras in Athens. "I hope that policy is continued." Merkel's brief visit, her second since Europe's debt crisis erupted in Greece more than four years ago, came amid Greek government euphoria over the country's successful re-entry to international bond markets on Thursday. The land-

mark five-year issue was Greece's first since 2010, when it was saved from bankruptcy by a massive bailout from its European partners and the International Monetary Fund.

"Greece has made it," Samaras said, before striking a more sober tone.

"My pace and that of my government will not change. What has changed is the image, the psychology ... markets have voted for Greece and given it their confidence." Merkel remains a divisive figure in Greece because of her insistence on economic pain. During a visit in 2012, she was greeted by mass anti-austerity protests that turned violent, and about 5,000 police officers were deployed Friday to guard areas on Merkel's itinerary and enforce a ban across most of central Athens on planned protests. □



Pelican Adventures

Champagne Brunch Cruise

28th Anniversary



Includes continental breakfast, lunch, open bar, mimosas, 3rd lung, snorkeling equipment. Our fleet are custom build Catamarans, with shaded area, restrooms, sunbathing nets, Spacious deck for dancing, easy embarking from our Pelican Pier, with professional crew members.

Stops: Catalina Bay, Antilla Ship Wreck & Malmok Bay

Visit us at Casa del Mar, Playa Linda, Holiday Inn Concierge/lobby desk/ beach huts or at our own Pelican Pier, located between the Holiday Inn & Playa Linda Resort.

For reservations call 587-2302 (Mon-Sun) Or book online at: www.pelican-aruba.com

PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE \$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

Prosecutor targets Pistorius' account of safety fears

DAN BILEFSKY

© 2014 New York Times

The South African athlete Oscar Pistorius appeared flustered, agitated and tired at his murder trial Friday, the third day of cross-examination by a relentless prosecutor who accuses him of shooting his girlfriend in the head during an argument.

From the beginning of the trial, Pistorius has insisted that he shot his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp, 29, four times through a locked bathroom door in his home because he had mistaken her for an intruder.

But on Friday, Gerie Nel, a prosecutor nicknamed the Pit Bull, zeroed in on the discrepancies of Pistorius' account of events, at times reducing him to tears and prompting him to apolo-

gize to the judge for contradicting himself.

In one exchange in the courtroom in Pretoria, South Africa, Nel said it defied comprehension that Steenkamp had not screamed, as Pistorius asserted, when he shot her in the head. He also said that if Pistorius had truly feared an intruder, then it was inconceivable that he would not have checked to make sure that Steenkamp was safe before drawing his gun. He accused Pistorius of killing Steenkamp, a law school graduate and budding reality television star, in a murderous rage.

"She was standing there talking to you when you shot her in the head," Nel said. She was not scared of an intruder, he said. "She was scared of you."

"You shot at her knowing she was behind that door," he said.

Nel questioned why Pistorius had not fled his bedroom - the closest route to safety

- but instead had gone toward danger, wielding a loaded gun.

Pistorius replied that he did not balk when faced with danger and said: "I didn't

want to take anyone's life. I was never ready to shoot. I was trying to see what was happening in my home."

Pistorius' lawyers have argued that he felt vulnerable after having been the victim of a series of crimes, including burglaries at his home and an assault. But on Friday, Nel pressed Pistorius to explain why he had not reported those crimes to the police.

Nel told the court that the gated community in Pretoria where Pistorius lived had bolstered security measures shortly before the shooting took place, on Feb. 14, 2013, and noted that Pistorius had felt so secure there that he had left his two cars parked outside.



Aimee Pistorius, sister of Oscar Pistorius, the double-amputee track star who is accused of murdering his girlfriend, reacts during his trial in Pretoria, South Africa.

(Masi Losi/Pool via The New York Times)

3 dead, 20 wounded during southern Philippines battle

TERESA CEROJANO

MANILA, Philippines (AP) —

Philippine troops launched an assault against Abu Sayyaf extremists in the south early Friday and sporadic clashes have left at least three militants dead and 20 soldiers wounded, officials said.

Some of the more than 60 Abu Sayyaf gunmen took cover in a school during an initial gunbattle in a rural community on Basilan Island but it was not clear if they took hostages or if they have left, said army brigade commander Brig. Gen. Carlito Galvez. The school was supposed to be empty because students were on a summer break. Military spokesman Lt. Col. Ramon Zagala said about 200 soldiers were deployed before dawn to assault a group of gunmen led by

Abu Sayyaf commander Puruji Indama in Basilan's Unkaya Pukan township.

Galvez said troops moved in after Indama and his men threatened and tried to extort money from a key road project in Basilan, a predominantly Muslim province and birthplace of the brutal Abu Sayyaf, which is notorious for kidnappings for ransom, beheadings and bombings.

Troops initially clashed with a group of more than 30 Abu Sayyaf armed fighters, who were later reinforced by two separate groups of more than 30 other militants. Three militants were believed killed in initial fighting and two more were critically wounded in a second gunbattle, Galvez told The Associated Press by telephone as he directed the assault from Basilan.

TROP CLUB & CASINO

APRIL 12, 2014 | 8:00 PM

HAPPY HOUR

ON SELECTED BRANDS | WITH OVER 14 HD TV AND 4 GIANT HD PROJECTION SCREENS

WORLD WELTERWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

PACQUIAO 2

BRADLEY 2

JOLLY PIRATES

SAIL, SNORKEL, SWIM & SWING
DAILY 9am - 1pm \$60 pp
 Visit 3 Great sites with BBQ,
 Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

AFTERNOON CRUISE
DAILY 2pm - 5pm \$45 pp
 Our shorter snorkel cruise, with
 Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

DAILY SUNSET SAIL
DAILY 5:30pm - 7:30pm \$32 pp
 Enjoy spectacular sunset. Open
 Bar & Ropeswing included

Tickets available at Jolly Pirates Shop at MooMba Beach. Boarding at MooMba Beach- by the high rise hotels between Holiday Inn and Marriott Resorts. Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers. Valid for direct telephone reservations **ONLY - Present coupon at boarding** 586 8107/592 7858

Save \$10 per couple/per coupon for morning cruise Save \$5 per couple/per coupon for afternoon cruise

Ailing Puerto Rico open to radical economic fixes

DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Slash the number of public holidays by two-thirds. Eliminate dozens of government agencies. Legalize marijuana and prostitution. From the intriguing to the impossible, there is no shortage of ideas for fixing Puerto Rico's ailing economy as the government tries to dig out from a whopping \$70 billion in public debt and bring back economic growth. The ideas have come from legislators, entrepreneurs and even members of the public, who have submitted ideas

via a government-sponsored website. Of the 369 ideas sent in by the public, 156 have been accepted by a government committee for consideration, including the suggestions to legalize marijuana and prostitution, and to limit how long people can live in subsidized housing. But all the ideas require further government approval, either with a legislative vote, or an administrative nod from the governor, agency or department. More dramatic ideas, such as legalization of marijuana or prostitution, would require public hearings, legislative ap-

proval and the governor's signature. And prospects for approval of the various suggestions are decidedly mixed.

The governor, for example, is expected to sign a bill approved by lawmakers to release certain elderly prisoners, but not a suggestion floated by a member of the public to charge inmates for their room and board. Puerto Rico, in dire straits

brakes 20 holidays a year, double those observed in the U.S. Many people have bristled at the proposal to scrap some of the additional extra days off, some of which commemorate various historic Puerto Rican leaders. But Gonzalez said the excessive number of holidays costs the government about \$500 million a year in lost productivity and interruptions in ser-

credit agencies that he will eliminate an \$820 million deficit. The governor has not detailed his cutbacks, prompting fears of layoffs, tax increases and cuts to public service.

Opposition legislator Rep. Ricardo Llerandi Cruz has proposed eliminating 41 government agencies, saying it would save \$160 million alone in administrative costs. He said the govern-



Demonstrators touch a giant Puerto Rican flag from underneath as they protest at the labor department during a teachers strike in San Juan, Puerto Rico. From the intriguing to the impossible, there is no shortage of ideas for fixing Puerto Rico's ailing economy as the government tries to dig out from a whopping \$70 billion in public debt and bring back economic growth.

(AP Photo/Ricardo Arduengo)

WACKY WAHOO'S

PALM BEACH #33-A WWW.WACKYWAHOOS.COM

STEAK, SEAFOOD, B.B.Q. & FUN!

Ex-Hadicurari BBQ & Grill with the same owner's.
 We do our own daily fishing so we serve the freshest seafood on the Island.

**Very reasonable price, exciting menu and
 NO SERVICE CHARGE**

Dinner from 5:30 - 10:00
 Monday - Saturday

FRESH CATCH & SEAFOOD
*We are located close to the High-rise
 hotel's at walking distance.*

RESERVATION SUGGESTED

TEL: 586-7333

following eight years of recession, has remained receptive as it debates hundreds of ideas: "We are studying all alternatives and all possibilities," said Sen. Maria Teresa Gonzalez, a member of the governor's party who has come under fire for submitting a bill that would reduce the number of holidays for public employees to six. The island currently cele-

brate, among other things. "Change always brings about inconveniences," she said. "I'm convinced that before we talk about something as dramatic and disastrous as layoffs, we have to consider other ideas." Many suggestions have come as Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla prepares to submit the first balanced budget in decades, having promised U.S. investors and

ment has many agencies performing the same functions, noting that there's a Department of Natural Resources, which protects, develops and manages the island's environmental resources, and an Administration of Natural Resources, a division within the department with responsibilities that include overseeing projects such as cleanup efforts. □



Aruba Meets Europe with Toes in the Sand at Divi Phoenix



PALM BEACH - Delegate of the annual Aruba Meets Europe, AME, hoteliers and members of the Aruba Tourism Authority and the Aruba Hotel & Tourism As-

sociation enjoyed a most creative evening offered by Divi Resorts and hosted by its Managing Director Alex Nieuwmeyer and his executive staff at the Divi



Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort.

Also on hand to meet and mingle with the dignitaries Tabitha Fecunda, Island Marketing & Promotion Manager, and Howard Maduro, Divi's Latin America Sales Director. The evening took off with an elegant cocktail party under the stars with a full live Jazz orchestra set up on a platform on the edge of the water.

The invited AME delegates, all travel professionals from Europe, were enchanted with the reception they received. After all, they were invited to the island in order to experience Aruba's vacation product first-hand and were very impressed with the brand of hospitality at Divi Resorts, and the beauty of their resort surroundings.

Executive Chef Anthony de Palm further charmed guests with the rich and varied party food. Guests enjoyed the food as their toes were caressed by the sugar white sand and their taste buds were tempted by



contemporary Caribbean and international specialties.

Pictured here unforgettable party moments de-

signed to strengthen the flow of visitors between the European continent and the Caribbean island of Aruba. □

Mrs. Connie Cislo honored at the Aruba Marriott Surf Club



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very lovely lady who is a loyal and friendly Visitor of Aruba, at the Marriott Surf Club as Ambassador of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to

guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years.

The honoree was Mrs. Connie Cislo from Linden, MI. Mrs. Cislo is a loyal member of the Marriott Surf Club and she loves Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and being on Aruba

and staying at the Surf Club is like being home for her and her family. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Connie's daughter-in-law and 2 of her grandchildren, and Ms. Jenny Boekhoudt and Mr. Joop Bangma, GM at the Marriott Surf Club. □



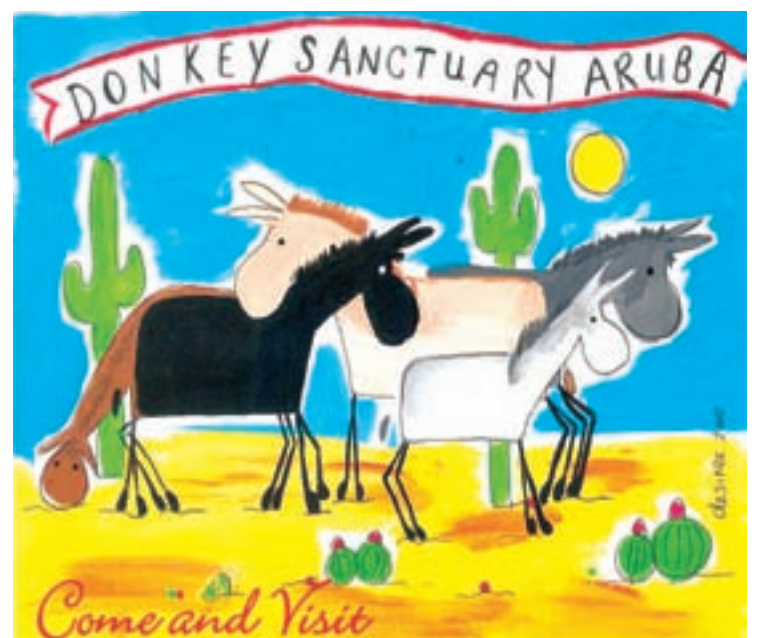
**Beauty
On The
Beach**

**Tara
Somal**

She is from
United Kingdom
She is on her
Honeymoon

**WINNER OF TRIP ADVISOR'S CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE 2012
Best Lobster House and International
Cuisine's Restaurant**

The Blue Lobster
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE & LOBSTER HOUSE
Phone: 586-3843



At Amazonia Churrascaria: Wine Tasting with Monrick Croes of Art of Dining Service Management



PALM BEACH - Staffers at Amazonia Churrascaria convened in the private banquet room for a wine tasting orchestrated by wine expert Monrick Croes. The gathering was designed to pair food and wine, and to enhance the understanding of wine production and marketing, as it relates to today's lifestyle, customer preferences and wine sales. Croes took attendees on a journey through a number

of wine countries and wine styles, paired with the delicious and hearty cuisine of Amazonia Churrascaria. Staffers enjoyed food pairings with Ben Marco Malbec, Gnarly Head Old Vine Zin, and Grand Callia Winemaker's Reserve, which may be perfectly paired with the restaurant's selection of grilled meats and 446 Chardonnay and Lis Negrís Pino Grigio, a great match for the rich and varied salad bar. □

Gold Coast Aruba... A Place for You!

**Please call for a
FREE pick-up!**
Open week days
from 8am - 5pm.
Saturday and Sunday
on appointment only.







3 minutes drive to
Arashi Beach

Across an 18-hole
Golf Course

Luxury Villas, Town Homes & Condos

Contact us by email at info@goldcoastaruba.com
Tel: +297-586-2200 • Fax: +297-586-2201
Toll Free from the U.S. 1-866-978-5770
www.goldcoastaruba.com

PRICE STARTING FROM \$289,000
Visit us for Your Island Dream Home Ownership
Monthly Mortgage Payments
starting from \$1,650



Friends of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts Honored



EAGLE BEACH - Recently, Ms. Marouska Heyliger honored Mr. and Mrs. Frank and Renee Germano, residents of Middle Village,

New York, with the Distinguished Visitors certificate in the name of the Aruba Tourism Authority. The event which commemorates the couple's 10th consecutive visit to the island was held at the Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts.

The couple love coming back to the island for the Weather and Friendly People. On the picture: The honorees together with Deborah from Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts and Marouska from ATA. □

back to the island for the Weather and Friendly People.

On the picture: The honorees together with Deborah from Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts and Marouska from ATA. □

ees together with Deborah from Bucuti & Tara Beach Resorts and Marouska from ATA. □

Countdown to Action: Les Voiles de St. Barth 2014!

ST. BARTH - Les Voiles de St. Barth, which in five short years has become one of the most beloved regattas on the Caribbean sailing circuit, is preparing once again to rock the waters off the island of Saint Barthélemy. Scheduled for next week, April 14-19, the event has become progressively more seasoned while its participating teams have, in parallel fashion, become increasingly more impressive in terms of talent on board. Currently 70 strong and counting, the Les Voiles fleet of racing boats -ranging in size from 24 to 112 feet- will be divided into Maxi, IRC 52, Spinnaker, Melges 24, Non Spinnaker and Racing Multihull divisions.

Les Voiles de St. Barth consists of four days of racing, starting Tuesday, April 15, with one lay-day for merry making at Nikki Beach before the regatta concludes on Saturday, April 19 with an awards ceremony on the Quay at Gustavia Harbor.

All of Les Voiles de St. Barth on your iPhone or iPad: Get Les Voiles wherever you are by downloading the Les Voiles de St. Barth application for free on your iPhone, iPod touch, or iPad from the iTunes App store. With it you can follow results as well as find all the information on the event, including the Event Program, list of competitors, and results. □



SUPER BINGO SATURDAY!

Super 4-Card BINGO starting at 1pm!

\$6 for 4-Card BINGO • 8 Games to Play

\$1,000 in Cash Prizes!

Additional \$500 Cash Prize in our Monthly Early Bird Drawing when you purchase your card prior to 12 noon!

Where Aruba goes to play!

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • www.casinoalhambra.com

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

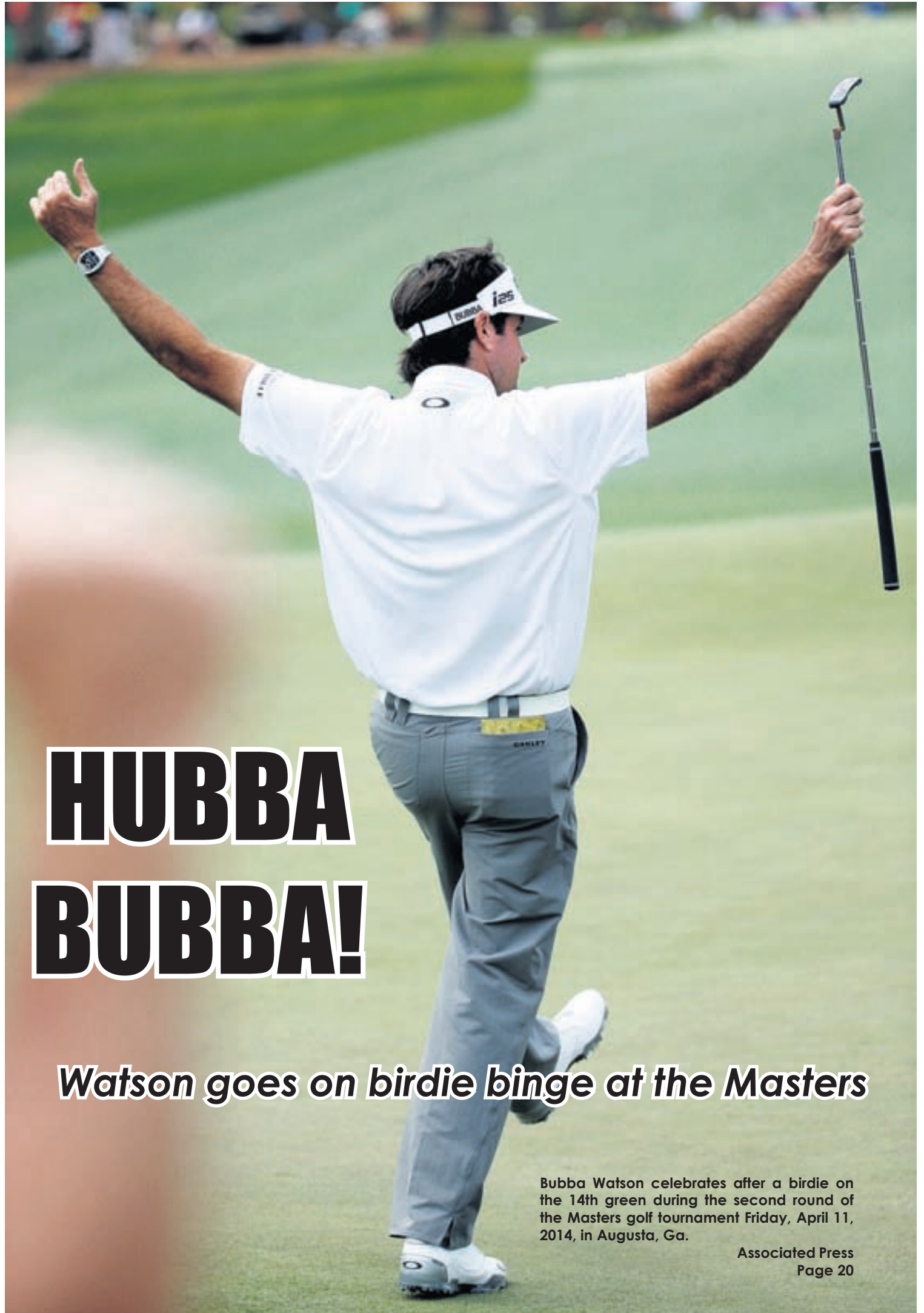


Navajo Council, U.N. expert criticize Redskins name

WINDOW ROCK, Arizona (AP) — The Navajo Nation Council voted to oppose the use of the American football team Washington Redskins name, while a United Nations human rights expert said separately that the term is “inextricably linked to a history of suffering and dispossession.” The Council’s committee of the whole voted 9-2 Thursday to oppose the name. The measure was sponsored by lawmaker Joshua Lavar Butler, who says the word can have negative psychological effects on American Indians. The statement of opposition also applies to what Butler says are disparaging references to American Indians in other professional sports franchises. It does not apply to college or high school mascots. The mascot for at least one high school on the Navajo Nation is the Redskins.

On Friday, James Anaya — a UN expert on indigenous people’s rights — said the American football team’s name is a “hurtful reminder” of the mistreatment of Native Americans, but stopped short of joining in calls for the team’s owner to change the name.

Last month, team owner Dan Snyder said he was creating a foundation to assist American Indian tribes but gave no indication he had plans to change the name, which he says honors Native Americans. On Friday, Anaya urged Snyder to “consider that the term ‘redskin’ for many is inextricably linked to a history of suffering and dispossession.” Anaya says “it is understood to be a pejorative and disparaging term that fails to respect and honor” Native Americans. □



HUBBA BUBBA!

Watson goes on birdie binge at the Masters

Bubba Watson celebrates after a birdie on the 14th green during the second round of the Masters golf tournament Friday, April 11, 2014, in Augusta, Ga.

Associated Press
Page 20

Nash's late goal lifts Rangers over Sabres 2-1

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Rick Nash scored the winning goal with 1:42 left, on New York's third shot of the third period, and the Rangers clinched home-ice advantage in the first round of the playoffs with a 2-1 victory over the NHL-worst Buffalo Sabres on Thursday night.

NHL Capsules

New York secured second place in the Metropolitan Division when the Philadelphia Flyers lost at Tampa Bay later Thursday. The Rangers will face either the Flyers or Columbus in the playoffs.

The Rangers struggled throughout against the lowly Sabres and goalie Matt Hackett, who played in just his seventh NHL game of the season.

Drew Stafford gave Buffalo a 1-0 lead in the second,

and Benoit Pouliot tied in in the final minute of the frame.

LIGHTNING 4, FLYERS 2

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Richard Panik, Eric Brewer and Steven Stamkos had third-period goals to help the Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Philadelphia Flyers.

Tyler Johnson had the other goal for Tampa Bay, which moved within a point of Montreal for second place in the Atlantic Division.

Wayne Simmonds and Sean Couturier scored for the playoff-bound Flyers, who are tied for third in the Metropolitan Division with Columbus.

Anders Lindback played in place of injured Tampa Bay starting goalie Ben Bishop, who may not be ready for the start of a playoff series next week against Montreal due to an upper-body

injury.

ISLANDERS 2, CANADIENS 0

MONTREAL (AP) — Evgeni Nabokov made 19 saves for his fourth shutout this season, and Ryan Strome and Brock Nelson scored power-play goals late in the second period as the New York Islanders topped the Montreal Canadiens.

The loss, combined with Tampa Bay's 4-2 win over Philadelphia, hurt the Canadiens' chances of starting the playoffs on home ice. Montreal is second in the Atlantic Division with 98 points and one game left to play, while the Lightning have 97 points with two games remaining.

The Islanders posted their first regulation win in four games, but improved to 7-2-2 in their last 11 games. The Canadiens, coming off a 3-2 overtime loss in Chi-



Nashville Predators goalie Pekka Rinne, of Finland, blocks a shot against the Phoenix Coyotes in the third period of a 2-0 shutout win by Rinne in a NHL hockey game on Thursday, April 10, 2014, in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

cago on Wednesday, were outshot 30-19.

CAPITALS 5, HURRICANES 2
RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Troy Brouwer scored two goals and the Washington Capitals routed the Carolina Hurricanes.

All three members of Washington's third line — Joel Ward, Jason Chimera and

Eric Fehr — each had a goal and two assists. They helped the Capitals claim an easy win in this Metropolitan Division matchup of teams knocked out of the playoff race.

Braden Holtby stopped 36 shots for Washington, which won its third straight after losing five in a row. □



20/20

Sunday!

**Join us today for a
Heatwave of Cash!**

*From 6pm to 10pm, we're giving away
\$20 Cash to lucky Advantage Players
every 20 minutes.*

Where Aruba goes to play!

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • www.casinoalhambra.com

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

NBA Capsules

Spurs beat Mavs, near top seed in the West

The Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — San Antonio moved to the brink of sealing the top seed in the NBA Western Conference playoffs by beating Dallas 109-100 on Thursday, with Patty Mills scoring 26 points starting in place of Tony Parker. Making his second start of the season and seventh of his career with Parker nursing a bad back, Mills had 11 points and a pair of steals in the third quarter when the Spurs turned a two-point deficit into an 11-point lead.

The Spurs beat the Mavericks for the ninth straight time in the regular season, a streak that has lasted more than two years.

Tim Duncan had 20 points and 15 rebounds after leaving briefly in the first quarter because of a hyperextended right knee. Kawhi Leonard added 16 points, a career-high 16 re-

bounds and five assists.

Monta Ellis led Dallas with 24 points and Dirk Nowitzki had 19. The Spurs are just a win or an Oklahoma City loss away from securing the top seed in the West.

The Mavericks (48-32) are in a three-team scrum with Phoenix and Memphis — their opponents in the final two games — for the final two playoff spots a year after missing the postseason for the first time since 2000. Dallas is in a virtual tie with the Suns (47-31) and a game ahead of the Grizzlies (46-32).

NUGGETS 100, WARRIORS 99

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Kenneth Faried made a turnaround hook shot over Draymond Green with a half-second remaining, and the Denver Nuggets made Golden State wait at least one more game to secure a playoff berth with a



San Antonio Spurs forward Tim Duncan (21) drives against Dallas Mavericks forward Dirk Nowitzki (41) during the first half of an NBA basketball game Thursday, April 10, 2014, in Dallas.

Associated Press

stunning win over the Warriors.

Stephen Curry's floater over Faried put the Warriors up 99-98 with 4.7 seconds to play, sending the announced sellout crowd of 19,596 roaring to their feet.

Faried quieted fans moments later, backing down Green for the winning shot. Curry's quick 30-footer rimmed off as time expired. Timofey Mozgov tied a career high of 23 points and set a career best with 29

rebounds, and Faried finished with 18 points and 17 boards to rally the Nuggets from 20 points down in the first half. Denver, which had lost six straight on the road, won both games at Golden State this season. □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing.

A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean.

What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009

Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included.

You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com

Driftwood Restaurant. This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 www.driftwoodaruba.com Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.



Bubba keeps it simple and builds a 3-shot lead

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Sports Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Bubba Watson won the Masters two years ago with his brand of "Bubba golf," producing shots of raw skill and wild imagination. His strategy now is to keep it simple, and he is halfway to another green jacket. Watson took over Augusta National on Friday with 75 minutes of brilliance and power. On another demanding day of crispy greens and swirling wind, he ran off five straight birdies on the back nine and wound up with a 4-under 68 for a three-shot lead over John Senden.

There's nothing fancy about his golf, except for his outrageous length. He has made only two bogeys in 36 holes. He has missed only eight greens.

"It's not science here," Watson said. "It's try to hit the greens. And if you're hitting the greens, that means you're obviously hitting your tee shots well. So that's all I'm trying to do is



Fred Couples steps over his bag before hitting on the 13th fairway during the second round of the Masters golf tournament Friday, April 11, 2014, in Augusta, Ga.

Associated Press

just hit the greens ... maybe throw in a birdie here or there. That's what I've done the last two days and

it's worked out so far." Watson made bogey on the 18th hole with a shot that bounced left of the

green and into the gallery. He finished at 7-under 137, giving him the largest 36-hole lead at the Masters since Chad Campbell in 2006.

Senden qualified for the Masters a month ago with his win at Innisbrook. After a rugged start, he played the final 14 holes with six birdies and no bogeys for a 68 that puts him in the last group at a major on the weekend.

Adam Scott also made a late recovery with three birdies on the back nine to salvage a 72, along with his hopes to join Tiger Woods, Nick Faldo and Jack Nicklaus as the only players to win back-to-back at Augusta. Scott was four shots back at 141, along with Thomas Bjorn (68), Jonas Blixt (71) and Jordan Spieth, the 20-year-old from Texas who looked solid on the mystifying greens and shot a 70.

"Bubba is tearing it up," Spieth said. "So we've got to go get him."

The chase includes the ageless Fred Couples, who

won the Masters a year before Spieth was born. Couples, cool as ever at 54, had another 71 and was five back.

Woods, who missed the Masters for the first time in 20 years because of back surgery, won't be the only guy watching on television. Phil Mickelson made another triple bogey — three shots from the bunkers on the par-3 12th hole — for a 73 and missed the cut for the first time since 1997. So did Sergio Garcia, Ernie Els, Luke Donald, Webb Simpson, Dustin Johnson and Jason Dufner.

Rory McIlroy nearly joined them. He hit one tee shot over the fourth green, past the head of Adam Scott on the fifth tee and into the bushes for a double bogey. Another shot hit a sprinkler head and landed in the azaleas behind the 13th green. He had to make a 6-foot par putt to make the cut at 4-over 148.

Watson seems further away from the field than just three shots.



Spectators watch as Phil Mickelson hits out of the rough on the second fairway during the second round of the Masters golf tournament Friday, April 11, 2014, in Augusta, Ga.

Associated Press

PAUL NEWBERRY

AP National Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Rory McIlroy took off his cap, rubbed his brow and let out a deep sigh.

After rolling in a testy 4-foot putt at the 18th hole, he was one of the fortunate ones Friday.

He gets to keep playing on the weekend at Augusta National.

Not so for Phil Mickelson,

who missed the Masters cut for the first time since 1997 after making a mess of three holes. Lefty took triple-bogey on two of them, a double-bogey on another, and wound up with one stroke too many.

"I didn't play great. I didn't play bad," Mickelson said. "I keep making these triples. They're tough to overcome." He wasn't the only big name headed

Mickelson headed home after missing Masters cut

home.

The last major champion, PGA winner Jason Dufner, missed the cut by six shots. Former Masters champions Zach Johnson, Trevor Immelman and Charl Schwartzel were on the wrong side of the line, too. Ditto for Ernie Els, Sergio Garcia, Dustin Johnson and Luke Donald.

"Just made some silly errors here and there," said Els, whose 2-over 74 left him with a 5-over 149, which like Mickelson was one shot more than he could afford. "I'm actually driving it well, doing a lot of things well, but just getting in my own way here and there."

Mickelson dug himself a big hole with a 76 on Thursday, marred by a triple-bogey 7 at the seventh and a double-bogey 7 at the 15th. In the second round, his undoing was the par-3 12th,

where Lefty deposited his tee shot in the front bunker, whacked the next over the cup into a back bunker, then put his third shot back in the front bunker. He finally got it on the green and two-putted for a 6.

Mickelson had six birdies and played 33 of the 36 holes at 3 under. Those other three holes did him in, and a 73 Friday not quite good enough. "I've actually played reasonably well for a majority of the holes," he said. "Then the ones I let slide I end up making a big number. So it's tough to overcome those big numbers." Garcia, Donald and Schwartzel were also at 149. Zach Johnson totaled 150, one stroke better than Dustin Johnson. Cabrera, who nearly won his second green jacket a year ago but lost to Adam Scott in a playoff, struggled to a 152

this time. Bradley, the PGA winner at Atlanta Athletic Club in 2011, and Immelman never really had a chance on the way to 153s. McIlroy came oh-so-close to missing out on the final two rounds. Some of it was his own fault, like at the par-3 fourth, where he not only drove it over the green but also the tee box for the fifth hole, winding up in the woods 30 yards beyond his intended target. He found the ball but had to go back to the tee for a do-over, winding up with a double bogey.

McIlroy's caught a bad break at the 13th, where a slightly errant approach shot hit a sprinkler head and sent the ball careening into the azaleas — a hole, appropriately enough, known as "Azalea." He punched it out of the flowers and took a bogey.

Bradley, Pacquiao look for decisive win in rematch

GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Timothy Bradley never imagined he would have to avenge a victory.

When the welterweight champion defeated Manny Pacquiao two years ago on two injured feet, he thought for an instant that he had reached the pinnacle of boxing. He hadn't even left the MGM Grand Garden ring before learning that practically nobody agreed with the two judges who gave him that split decision. After death threats, depression and a remarkable personal transformation, Bradley (31-0, 12 KOs) returns to that ring Saturday night in Las Vegas for a rematch with the Filipino congressman. Bradley intends to let out two years of humiliation and frustration with a decisive win over Pacquiao, finally earning the credit that was two years deferred.

"I always believed you only get one chance, but this is my second chance here," Bradley said. "It's my second chance to be a part of greatness and defeat a guy like Manny Pacquiao,

who is one of the top fighters of all time. This guy has fought everybody. To get a win over a guy like this who's an icon, it would be epic."

Yet the fight might be even more important to the career of the 35-year-old Pacquiao (55-5-2, 38 KOs), whose ascendance through the sport slowed with two losses in 2012. The eight-division champion is fighting both Bradley and the widespread perception that he has lost his competitive fire, becoming more interested in politics and compassion than the brutal business of boxing.

Pacquiao and his trainer, Freddie Roach, insist HBO's pay-per-view buyers will see the Pacman who ate up every opponent in front of him on a 15-fight win streak before Bradley's debatable decision.

"This time around, I think I have to finish the business first before I become friendly to him," Pacquiao said. "We have our business to do in the ring. I have to do all I can do."

There's little doubt both fighters will be completely prepared for this rematch



Manny Pacquiao, left, and Timothy Bradley pose for photos following a weigh-in for their WBO welterweight championship boxing match Friday, April 11, 2014, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

after two years of incessant talk about what happened in those 12 rounds. They're also both in top shape: Bradley weighed in at 145½ pounds Friday, while Pacquiao was hydrating even before weighing 145 pounds on the MGM Grand Garden scales.

"The first time around, I was injured from the second round on, and I still found a way," Bradley

said. "This time around, I'm not injured. And I'm wearing socks. I will be wearing socks." Indeed, Bradley infamously slid around the canvas in the first bout because he didn't wear socks, inexplicably choosing the biggest fight of his life to emulate Mike Tyson's sockless ring style. Roach, who trained Tyson, could have told Bradley that Iron Mike actually wore low socks.

Roach once rejected the idea of a rematch with Bradley, saying the Palm Springs-area fighter couldn't sell a ticket to help Pacquiao. Along with the rest of the boxing world, Roach gained a new respect for Bradley last year after his sensational brawl with Ruslan Provodnikov — also trained by Roach — and a crisp win over Juan Manuel Marquez.

MOTORSPORTS

NASCAR owner Gene Haas granted F1 license

PETE IACOBELLI

AP Sports Writer

DARLINGTON, S.C. (AP)

— NASCAR team owner Gene Haas said Friday he has been granted a license from Formula One's governing body to start a U.S.-based entry in the series, perhaps as early as next season.

Haas received documents from the FIA on Thursday and the organization confirmed the application had been approved.

"If he wants, he can join next season, it's up to him," FIA spokesman Matteo Bonciani said.

The last attempt for an American Formula One team came in 2010, but

the entry lacked funding and development to join. Money is not expected to be a problem for the deep-pocketed Haas, owner of CNC machine manufacturer Haas Automation and the Windshear wind tunnel in North Carolina.

Haas co-owns a NASCAR team with Tony Stewart that fields cars for drivers Stewart, Kevin Harvick, Danica Patrick and Kurt Busch. Haas pays for Busch himself.

"Obviously, we're extremely pleased to have been granted a Formula One license by the FIA. It's an exciting time for me, Haas Automation and anyone who wanted to see an

American team return to Formula One," Haas said in a statement.

Formula One chief Bernie Ecclestone said at last weekend's Bahrain Grand Prix that the U.S.-backed team led by Haas would likely join the series next season. Now it's official.

"Now, the really hard work begins. It's a challenge we embrace as we work to put cars on the grid," Haas said.

Haas' NASCAR co-owner Tony Stewart was happy for his partner and excited for the potential F-1 shop on the program's campus.

"It's a pretty cool deal," said Stewart. "Not anybody can just go get one



Bernie Ecclestone, center, president and CEO of Formula One Management, center, answers to reporters in the newsroom ahead of the Bahrain Formula One Grand Prix at the Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir, Bahrain, Sunday, April 6, 2014.

Associated Press

of those, so he had to go through the approval process and got approved and I'm happy for him." Stewart said he would not have any involvement in the venture.

The last U.S.-based team was Parnelli Jones Racing in 1974-76, when Mario Andretti drove. The FIA granted entry to an American team in 2009 — the USF1

team — but it failed to hit the grid in 2010.

Carl Haas (no relation to Gene) and Teddy Mayer fielded an American team in 1985 and 1986, although they were based in London.

At the IndyCar race in Long Beach, Calif., drivers wondered if a U.S.-based team would actually come to fruition.



Chicago Cubs' Nate Schierholtz, top, scores on a wild pitch as Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Gerrit Cole (45) makes a late tag during the fourth inning of a baseball game on Thursday, April 10, 2014 in Chicago.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Pedro Alvarez hit a three-run homer to cap a five-run seventh inning and Jason Grilli retired Emilio Bonifacio on a bases-loaded grounder to end the game, giving the Pittsburgh Pirates a 5-4

victory over the Chicago Cubs on Thursday. The Pirates trailed 4-0 heading into the seventh, but two big drives changed things. Pinch hitter Travis Snider cut the deficit in half with a two-run homer off Brian

NL Capsules

Alvarez hit go-ahead HR, Pirates hold off Cubs 5-4

Schlitter. Alvarez put Pittsburgh ahead with his three-run drive against James Russell (0-1), his third homer in two games.

Chicago threatened in the bottom of the ninth before Grilli retired Bonifacio on a grounder to first. The Pirates took two of three at Wrigley Field.

That gave the Pirates their third series win — the most for them to start the season since the 1992 team took its first six.

Gerrit Cole (2-0) struck out 10 in six innings. He also allowed four runs, three of them earned.

Tony Watson worked a perfect seventh. Mark Melancon retired the side in the eighth before things got tense against Grilli in the ninth.

NATIONALS 7, MARLINS 1
WASHINGTON (AP) — Stephen Strasburg struck out 12 in 6 2-3 innings on a day Washington really needed to rest its relievers, and Jayson Werth and Ian Desmond homered, leading the Nationals past Miami

for a three-game sweep.

Strasburg (1-1) got 14 consecutive outs in one stretch and allowed only three hits, including Marcell Ozuna's homer in the seventh. The right-hander's lone walk was to the last batter he faced.

Washington's starter Wednesday, Jordan Zimmermann, left after a career-low 1 2-3 innings, leaving the bullpen "taxed," as manager Matt Williams put it.

The Nationals won that game 10-7 on Werth's go-ahead grand slam in the eighth, and this time he connected in the third — a two-run shot off Tom Koehler (1-1) that put Washington ahead 2-0.

BREWERS 6, PHILLIES 2
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Carlos Gomez had three hits with an RBI and Milwaukee extended its winning to six games with a victory over Philadelphia.

The Brewers' wins have all come on the road during the streak. They came to Philadelphia following a

three-game sweep at defending World Series champion Boston.

They battered the Phillies with 25 runs and 38 hits in the three-game sweep. Milwaukee has batted .320 and has outscored opponents 42-18 during the streak.

Ryan Braun had two hits and an RBI, ending the series 6 for 12 with 10 RBIs while increasing his lifetime total to 24 RBIs in 21 games at Citizens Bank Park. Braun opened the series by homering three times in Tuesday's 10-4 win.

Khris Davis had two hits and two RBIs for the Brewers, who return home to host Pittsburgh on Friday night. Milwaukee's 6-0 road start is its best since starting the 1987 season 7-0.

Marco Estrada (1-0) allowed two runs and five hits in six innings, striking out six and walking two, to earn the victory.

Marlon Byrd homered and had two RBIs for the Phillies, who lost their fourth straight.

AL Capsules

Ellsbury helps Yankees beat Red Sox 4-1

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Pineda won while pitching with some substance smudged on his hand as the New York Yankees beat the Boston Red Sox 4-1 Thursday night.

New Yankees star Jacoby Ellsbury drew all the pregame attention after switching sides during the offseason. But it was the dark brown, seemingly tacky substance on the lower palm of Pineda's pitching hand that quickly became the focus.

Close-up camera shots clearly showed Pineda (1-1) pitching for the first four innings with something on his hand, and there was speculation it was pine tar

to help him get a better grip on a chilly night. The game was never stopped for an umpire to examine him, and it was gone by

the fifth. Pineda said it was merely dirt, rubbed on his sweaty right hand. Red Sox manager John Farrell said that



New York Yankees starting pitcher Michael Pineda delivers a pitch during the first inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox at Yankee Stadium in New York, Thursday, April 10, 2014. Pineda pitched for the first four innings with a dark substance on the lower palm of his pitching hand, but it was gone by the fifth.

Associated Press

he found out about it only after Pineda's hand was cleaned up.

Pineda (1-1) took a two-hit shutout into the seventh. He allowed four hits in his first Yankees' win, struck out seven and walked two. Ellsbury scored in the fourth and singled in the fifth off Buchholz (0-1).

WHITE SOX 7, INDIANS 3
CHICAGO (AP) — Rookie Jose Abreu connected for his second multihomer game in three days and the Chicago White Sox ended a 14-game losing streak against Cleveland.

Abreu hit tape-measure drives in the second and fifth innings and drove in three runs. The Cuban slugger hit the first two homers of his major league career

Tuesday in Colorado.

Abreu has four homers and 14 RBIs in 10 games.

Alexi Ramirez homered and drove in three runs for Chicago. The Indians had outscored the White Sox 102-45 in a streak that dated to last June.

John Danks (1-0) overcame a rocky start. Indians starter Danny Salazar (0-1) struck out 10 in 3 2-3 innings, but also gave up five runs and six hits.

ASTROS 6, BLUE JAYS 4
TORONTO (AP) — Robbie Grossman and Jonathan Villar homered off R.A. Dickey and the Houston Astros avoided a three-game sweep by beating Toronto. Dallas Keuchel (1-1) allowed one run and five hits in seven innings.

Google to sell Glass to bigger pool of consumers

MICHAEL LIETKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A lot more people are about to get a chance to buy Google Glass, the Internet-connected eyewear that has become the hottest accessory in geek fashion. Google will sell the "Explorer" version of Glass to any U.S. resident who places an online order for the device beginning at 9 a.m. PDT (1800 GMT) April 15. The product will cost \$1,500, the same price that Google Inc. has charged for Glass since sales of the device began last year, the company said Thursday. The April 15 sale will take place at <http://google.com/glass/start/how-to-get-one>. Google isn't saying how many sets of Glass will be available during the limited-time offer.

It marks the first time that Google has made Glass available to consumers without providing them special access. More than 10,000 sets of Glass have been sold to a select group of developers, contest

winners and other invitees. This version of Glass, though, still isn't the polished product that Google hopes to release in stores later this year. Although it hasn't provided specifics, Google has indicated that the mass-market version of Glass will sell for less than \$1,500. Google is expected to provide more details about its Glass plans at its annual developers' conference in late June. For now, Google is still trying to recruit more people willing to serve as guinea pigs for its attempt build a wearable device that features some of the same features as a smartphone. The Explorer program for Glass has been serving as Google's test lab.

"Our Explorers are moms, bakers, surgeons, rockers, and each new Explorer has brought a new perspective that is making Glass better," Google said in a Thursday post on its Plus social networking service. Glass looks like a pair of spectacles except the Explorer edition doesn't contain any actual glass



The new Google Glass "Bold" prescription frames in "shale" color rests on a table at the Google Glass Basecamp space at Chelsea Market, Friday, Jan. 24, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

in the frame. Instead, the device has a thumbnail-sized screen attached above the right eye so a user can check email, see Twitter posts or get directions without having to grope for a phone. It can also take hands-free photos and video through voice-activated commands. The ability to record images so easily — and perhaps secretly — has raised privacy and piracy concerns and has prompted some casinos, theaters and bars to ban the use of Glass on their property. Safety concerns have also been raised about drivers wearing Glass, prodding lawmakers to draw up new rules

forbidding use of the device in moving vehicles. Google and other technology enthusiasts are hailing Glass as a breakthrough that will make it easier for people to access the Internet while on the go and cause fewer disruptions to social discourse because people won't be fumbling around with their smartphones as frequently. The device is also being touted as a potentially valuable business tool that could help police officers, fire fighters, doctors and reporters do their jobs better. Glass is the most prominent example of wearable technology, devices that are expected to become

more widespread over the next few years. There are already several smart watches on the market, and Google is working with accessory makers to release even more of those devices later this year. Apple Inc., the maker of the iPhone and iPad, is expected to unveil an "iWatch" later this year. About 19 million pieces of wearable technology will be sold this year, more than tripling from last year, according to study released Thursday by International Data Corp. The research firm predicts the annual sales volume for wearable technology will swell to 112 million devices in 2018. □



NEED CASH TODAY? PAWN OR SELL YOUR GOLD



VISIT US & COMPARE FOR YOURSELF!



OPEN 10AM - 6PM MONDAY - FRIDAY



ORANJESTAD WERFSTRAAT 7 LOK. 12 TEL 588 4141 ☎ SAN NICOLAS B. V/D VEEN ZEPPENFELDSTRAAT 14 TEL 584 4141

Stocks fall on jitters over earnings, tech rout



Trader Michael Zicchinolfi, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Friday, April 11, 2014. Weaker earnings at JPMorgan Chase dragged bank stocks lower in early trading. Technology and biotech stocks also fell, a day after the worst rout for the Nasdaq composite index since 2011.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Investors drove the U.S. stock market lower for a second straight day Friday as they grew anxious that earnings growth was faltering. Weaker earnings at JPMorgan Chase dragged bank stocks lower. And big drops in once-soaring tech stocks pushed the Nasdaq composite down for a third week.

"The market has been trying to come back, but each time the selling just picks up," said Quincy Krosby, a market strategist at Prudential. "The buyers are just not stepping in." So much for buying on the dip.

Stocks fell from the open on news that JPMorgan had missed analysts' earnings estimates. Investors, who were worried that technology shares were overvalued, dumped those for a second day, with some of the biggest gainers of late falling sharply. Facebook fell 1.1 percent, after a 5 percent drop on Thursday. The first-quarter earnings season has just started, but investors already seem anxious about what lies ahead. Financial analysts expect earnings for com-

panies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index to drop 1.6 percent from a year earlier, according to FactSet, a fi-

nancial data provider. At the start of the year, they expected a jump of 4.3 percent.

If profits do fall, it would be only the second quarterly drop in three years.

"Earnings are going to come in on the sloppy side," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Rockwell Global Capital. "The market needs to correct," he added, referring to sharp downturn in stocks. On Friday, the Nasdaq dropped 54.37 points, or 1.3 percent, to 3,999.73. It was only the second time this year the index has closed below the 4,000 mark.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 143.47 points, or 0.89 percent, to 16,026.75. The S&P 500 fell 17.39 points, or 0.95 percent, to 1,815.69.

All ten industry sectors in the S&P 500 dropped. Consumer discretionary stocks fell the most, down 1.4 percent, followed by technology stocks, down 1.2 percent.

Last year, earnings for S&P 500 companies rose 6 percent, a decent showing. Stocks rose much faster —

up nearly 30 percent for the index. Helping stocks rise was the Federal Reserve bond buying designed to stimulate the economy.

"Investors haven't worried about earnings because it hasn't mattered. Fundamentals haven't mattered," said Prudential's Krosby. "All that has mattered ... is what is the Federal Reserve was going to do."

The Nasdaq is already well on its way. It is now 8 percent below its recent high in March. The S&P 500 is 4 percent off its recent high on April 2.

Among tech stocks making big moves Friday, Netflix fell 2.4 percent, Amazon, 1.7 percent and Google's new Class C shares, 1.9 percent. On Friday, JPMorgan Chase fell \$2.10, or 3.7 percent, to \$55.30. The nation's biggest bank by assets said its earnings slid 20 percent in the first quarter as revenue from bond trading and mortgage lending declined. □

JPMorgan's first-quarter profit falls 20 percent

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — JPMorgan Chase, the biggest U.S. bank by assets, said Friday its first-quarter earnings fell 20 percent, driven by a de-

cline in investment banking and mortgage lending.

EARNINGS: The bank reported net income of \$4.9 billion for the first quarter, after stripping out payments to preferred stock-

holders. That was down from \$6.1 billion in the same period a year earlier.

On a per-share basis, the earnings amounted to \$1.28. That was worse than estimates of analysts polled

by FactSet, who had been expecting \$1.39.

Revenue, after stripping out the effect of an accounting charge for credit losses, was \$23.8 billion, down 8 percent from \$25.8 billion a year earlier.

Revenues at the bank's fixed income trading business, part of its investment banking unit, slumped 21 percent to \$3.8 billion. Jamie Dimon, JPMorgan's CEO and Chairman said that the business was still performing well given the market environment.

"I look at it as doing fine, it's just not that predictable a business," Dimon said. "There's nothing wrong with that, you just have to deal with it over time."

The bank's mortgage business continued to slow. The increase in bond yields since last summer has caused mortgage rates to rise, which in turn has slowed refinancing of home loans. □



People stand in the lobby of JPMorgan Chase headquarters in New York. JPMorgan, one of the nation's biggest banks and the largest U.S. investment bank, reported poor first-quarter earnings before the market opened on Friday April 11, 2014.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

Mortgage lender Wells Fargo's earnings rise 14%

The Associated Press

First-quarter profit for Wells Fargo & Co., the biggest U.S. mortgage lender, surged 14 percent in the latest quarter as the bank continued to trim its losses on soured loans.

EARNINGS: Net income after dividends on preferred stock rose to \$5.6 billion in the January-March period

from \$4.9 billion a year earlier, the bank reported early Friday. On a per-share basis, earnings were \$1.05, well above the 97 cents forecast by Wall Street analysts. Revenue in the first quarter fell to \$20.6 billion from \$21.3 billion a year earlier, in line with analysts' estimates.

HOW IT HAPPENED: The rise

in rates on U.S. mortgages in the latter part of last year continued to have a negative impact on Wells Fargo's mortgage business. The San Francisco-based bank, which is the fourth-largest U.S. bank by assets, controls about a third of the U.S. mortgage market. Much of its lending business has been coming from

mortgage refinancing, which was dampened by the spike in interest rates.

Wells Fargo funded \$36 billion worth of mortgages in the first quarter, down sharply from \$109 billion a year earlier. At the same time, Wells Fargo slashed its losses on loans in the first quarter by 41 percent, to \$825 million from \$1.4

billion. The bank trimmed expenses by \$137 million compared with the fourth quarter to \$11.9 billion, with lower costs for outside professional services and equipment offsetting higher employee pay and benefits. **STOCK ACTION:** Wells Fargo stock rose 11 cents, or 0.2 percent, to \$47.82 in pre-market trading. □

GM stock drops 4 percent, hits 10-month low



The General Motors logo is on display at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. Shares of General Motors Co. sank to a 10-month low Friday, April 11, 2014, after Standard & Poor's raised doubts that the company's credit rating would be restored to investment grade status this year.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

TOM KRISHER AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Shares of General Motors Co. sank to a 10-month low Friday amid continuing fallout from a mishandled recall of 2.6 million small cars. Standard & Poor's raised doubts that GM's credit rating would be restored to investment grade status this year after the automaker

boosted its estimated for costs related to a series of recalls announced since February. And documents released by a House subcommittee raised further questions about GM's handling of safety issues. The stock fell \$1.37, or 4.1 percent, to close at \$31.93, with most of the decline in the middle of the afternoon. It's the first time the

shares have dropped below GM's 2010 initial public offering price of \$33 since June of last year.

Late in the trading day, an email released by a U.S. House subcommittee showed that CEO Mary Barra, then the head of product development, was told in 2011 that the Saturn Ion could be included in an ongoing recall of small cars

for a power-steering problem. GM was resisting an expansion of the recall. The Ion wasn't recalled for the steering problem until last week.

At the time, GM's safety and recall operations reported to Barra, spokesman Kevin Kelly confirmed Friday. The power steering recall, which included the Chevrolet Cobalt, is separate from the recall of 2.6 million small cars for an ignition switch problem that GM says is linked to 13 deaths.

Barra has repeatedly stated that she first learned of the ignition switch problem last December, just after being named CEO. The email released Friday doesn't indicate that Barra had prior knowledge of the switch defect.

But it does show that she at least was aware of a separate safety problem more than two years before GM issued a recall.

GM began recall cars including the Cobalt for the ignition switch problem on Feb. 13.

The switch can unexpectedly slip out of the "run"

position and shut down the cars' engines, which cuts off power steering and stops air bags from deploying.

On Thursday, GM announced that the recalled small cars need to have another part repaired, boosted the estimated cost of recalls announced in the past two months to \$1.3 billion from an initial \$300 million. In addition to the small cars, the company has recalled 3.7 million other vehicles for various problems. The company said that despite the recall charge, it expects to report "solid core operating performance" in the first quarter. If it reports a quarterly net loss, it would be GM's first since 2009.

S&P said an upgrade of GM's credit to an investment grade rating is less likely this year, and more likely in 2015. GM's debt has been below investment grade, or at "junk" status, since 2005. The company has acknowledged that it knew about the ignition switch problem for at least a decade. Yet it didn't recall the cars until this year. □

Exxon CEO's compensation rises 3 percent to \$28.1M

IRVING, Texas (AP) — The CEO of Exxon Mobil Corp. received compensation worth \$28.1 million last year, a 3 percent increase over the previous year, according to an Associated Press analysis of a company regulatory filing. Most of Rex W. Tillerson's compensation was in the form of stock awards, which the largest U.S. oil company valued at \$21.3 million when they were granted. His overall compensation

for 2013 was up from \$27.2 million in 2012, under The AP's calculation.

The AP analysis of Tillerson's compensation considered salary, bonus, perks and the estimated value of stock and option grants that the company reported Friday to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

The calculation excluded changes in the present value of Tillerson's pension benefits. Tillerson, 62, re-

ceived a salary of \$2.7 million, a 6 percent increase from a year ago, plus a cash bonus of nearly \$3.7 million, which was down 20 percent because Exxon's earnings fell compared with 2012, the company said.

The value of Tillerson's stock awards increased \$1.6 million, or 8 percent, from 2012, because of a rise in the company's share price. He received other compensation valued at \$496,704.

The biggest items in that miscellaneous category were \$190,190 in matching contributions to a retirement plan and \$177,140 for personal security.

Exxon earned \$32.6 billion last year, a decrease of 27 percent from 2012, which was the company's second-best year ever, helped by high and rising oil prices. Exxon Mobil shares, however, rose 17 percent in a strong stock market during 2013.

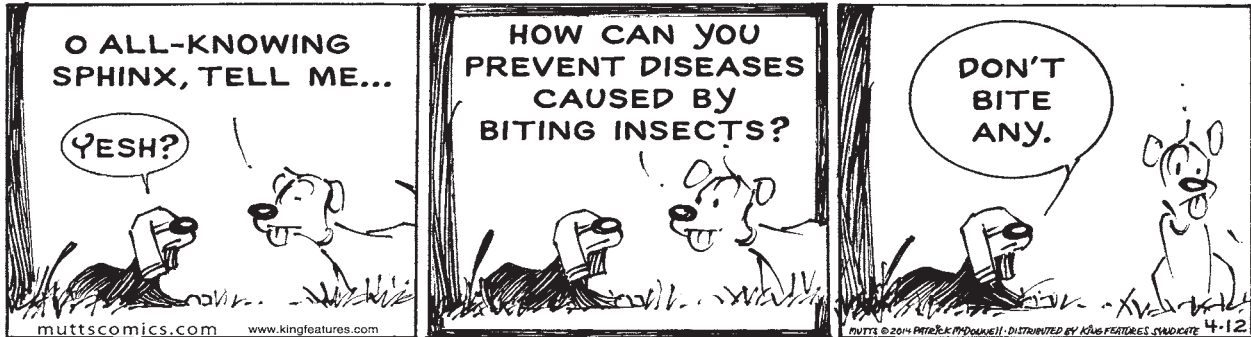
Through Thursday's close, they were down 4 percent in 2014.

Exxon produces oil around the world and is also the biggest producer of natural gas in the United States since it bought XTO Energy in 2010,

a deal that hasn't lived up to expectations because of low gas prices.

Tillerson, who also serves as chairman, has led the Irving-based company since 2006. □

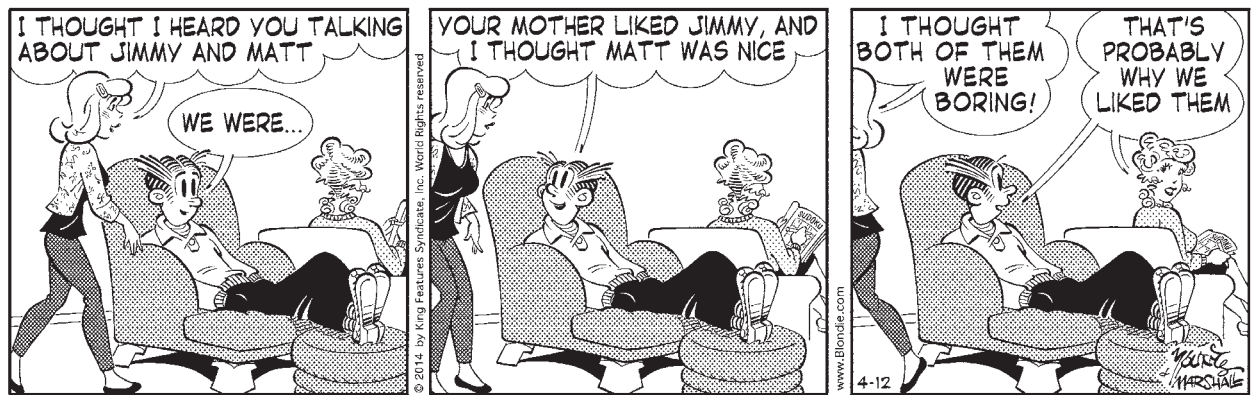
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



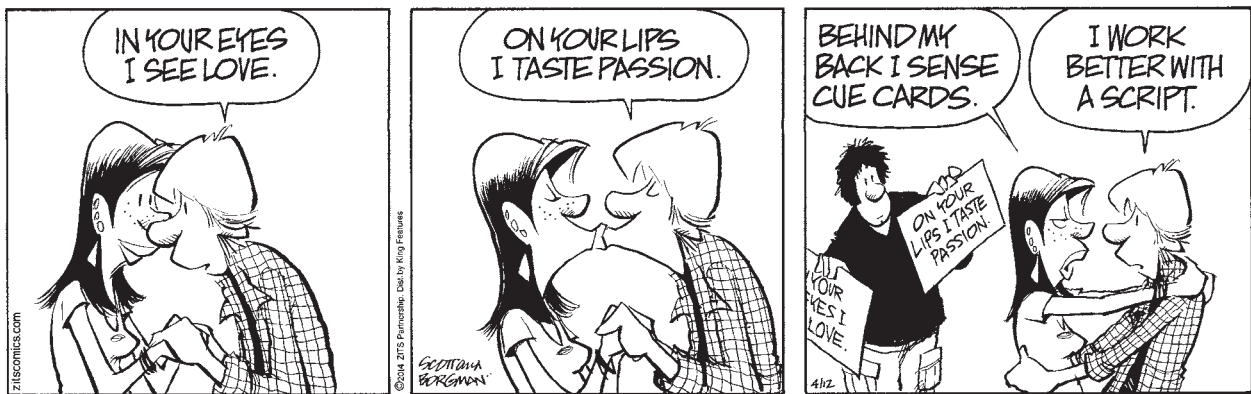
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

3			8		5			4
			3		6			
	2						8	
5	4			3			7	8
8	1			7			2	5
	7						9	
			4		7			
9			5		2			6

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

4/12

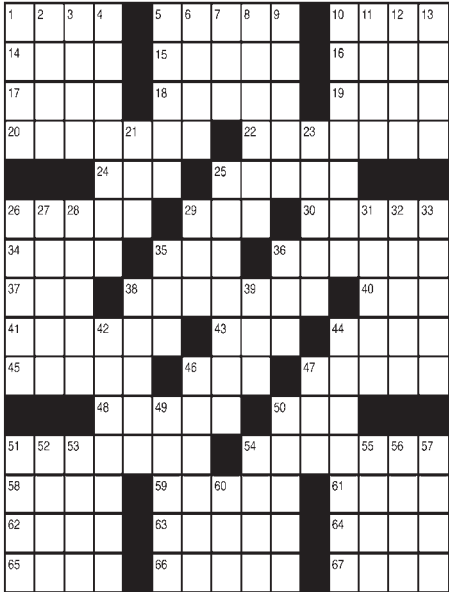
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	1	9	5	3	2	7	4	8
5	2	4	8	6	7	3	9	1
7	8	3	1	4	9	6	5	2
2	3	1	4	7	8	9	6	5
9	7	6	3	5	1	8	2	4
8	4	5	9	2	6	1	7	3
4	6	8	7	1	5	2	3	9
1	5	7	2	9	3	4	8	6
3	9	2	6	8	4	5	1	7

ACROSS

- oneself; work steadily
- Loose, as a rope
- Teacup's edge
- Unlock
- Expand
- Law
- Tenant's payment
- Pianist Previn
- Qualified
- Far from moderate
- Most uncanny
- Samuel's teacher
- Actor Rathbone
- Evening coffee, perhaps
- Nickname for Harold
- Forest opening
- Way out
- person; apiece
- Very sad
- Summer month; abbr.
- Letter; mailman
- Wan Kenobi
- Peruvian pack animals
- Wrath
- Cold weather garment
- "77 Sunset" of old TV
- Mediterranean or Caribbean
- TV's Court
- Not intoxicated
- Tease
- Actor Kevin
- Wild enthusiast
- Ms. Perlman
- Baseball great Hank
- City in Nevada
- Cry from a sty
- Use up
- Dines
- Morse
- Stuffed bear
- Horse's gait



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/12/14

Friday's Puzzle Solved

FORDS	BLAB	FATS
ADORE	LUGE	OGRE
COMET	ANEW	REIN
TREATING	ARENAS	
	MEND	BRITTLE
CHISEL	SUEDE	
RUM	SAFER	ELBOW
ALPS	WELSH	LAVA
BASIL	ALTAR	DEN
	BOOTS	LATENT
TAILORS	ALSO	
ENDING	PRECINCT	
AKIN	AVID	ALOHA
CLOG	NATO	LETUP
HEMS	STAR	STEMS

(c) 2014 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

4/12/14

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 35 Faux; gaffe | 50 Quaid or Travis |
| 36 Tiny | 51 Gator's cousin |
| 38 Poultry choice | 52 Akron's state |
| 39 Mr. Gershwin | 53 Put in the mail |
| 42 Error | 54 Is of; likes |
| 44 Nightclub | 55 Rip |
| 46 Mexican shawl | 56 4 12 is 3 |
| 47 Relatives | 57 Price |
| 49 Brutal man | 60 Blushing |

Nicaragua sees series of arrow killings of dogs

LUIS GALEANO
Associated Press

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Renato Franco Penalba awoke one morning to find his pet dog Cookie

the killing of at least seven cherished house dogs has caused an uproar on social media and in the press. Police are investigating and say they fear that people,

Another attack came a 10-minute drive from Franco Penalba's house. Wilbur Arteaga was just falling asleep when he heard his dog cry out. He told the



In this photo released by veterinarian Enrique Rimbaud on April 8, 2014, Renato Penalba, comforts his dog 'Cookie' while being treated, after the dog was injured with an arrow, shot by an unidentified attacker in Managua, Nicaragua, on April 4. The dog later died.

(AP Photo/Enrique Rimbaud)

in agony, skewered by an arrow on his patio.

He raced her to a veterinarian, but the basset-Pekingese mix did not survive. "I had never seen an animal in so much pain," veterinarian Enrique Rimbaud said Friday.

It quickly turned out that Cookie was not alone.

When Franco Penalba posted an account of the killing on a social networking site, he began to hear of other cases. Rimbaud, who is also president of the animal-protection group Amarte Foundation, says at least seven dogs have been attacked with cross-bow bolts in the same upscale district of Nicaragua's capital.

In an impoverished Central American country where strays have long led miserable lives in the streets,

too, could one day be targeted.

"Our dog was 9 years old. She wasn't the kind of dog who roamed the streets," said Franco Penalba, a 30-year-old business consultant. Rimbaud said he struggled for hours to save the dog, giving her repeated injections of anesthetics before she died.

"These weapons are very powerful," Rimbaud said. "They do a great amount of damage to muscles, bones, arteries and veins."

newspaper La Prensa that he went out into his yard to check, but the dog crawled under a vehicle, so he went back to bed.

In the morning, his sister-in-law found the dog dead, again with an arrow straight through his body. Even police dogs had suffered the same kind of attack.

"There is a guard post in front of my house, and their dog killed with an arrow, too," Arteaga told the newspaper. □

TODAY

ARUBA'S ENGLISH NEWS LEADER AND THE BEST PART OF YOUR DAY!

BONDIA

POSSIBLE DREAM HOME

How to reach us!

Downtown

Classifieds

FOR SALE

Condo in Gold Coast
Everything's included in this 2 Br 2 ½ bath unit check it out now at www.arubarental.info or call 562-0735 free pick up

201703



Marriott Aruba Surf Club

Platinum Season
Oceanview \$16000
Oceanside \$17500
Oceanfront \$27500
3 BEDRM \$27000
Plat Plus Holiday 51
OV -\$42k
Plat Plus NY 52 OV- \$49k
GOLD Season
OS \$10k OV \$9500
Oceanfront \$17k
3 BEDRM OV \$17,000

Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

Platinum 2B OV \$18k
Oceanfront PLAT \$29k
Platinum 1B OV \$11,500
Gold season 2B OV \$9,000
Oceanfront 2B \$14,500
1B Oceanfront \$8,500

La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club

****Preferred Resale Company****
ALL summer & fall weeks starting at \$3k
Studio, 1Bdrm & 2Bdrm available.
Costa Linda & Playa Linda inventory
Beach Villas at Divi Phoenix
Divi Golf Villas

We are the #1 Rental Timeshare agent for Aruba!

We also RENT Aruba weeks for owners.
Contact us to BUY, SELL or RENT any timeshare property.

888-888-2204 Ext 111
321-206-6293 Ext 111
321-250-7164 Fax

Fax Website:
www.conciergerealty.com



DOCTOR ON DUTY Oranjestad

Apr. 12 Dr. Esschendal
Apr. 13 Dr. Dennert

EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

PHARMACY

O'STAD: Kibrahacha Tel: 582-2007
S. NICOLAS: San Lucas Tel: 584-5119

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

CRUISESHIP

Apr. 12
Queen Victoria

Aruba Airport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

FOUNDATION

FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,
Anonymity guaranteed

FUNDACION

Anti-Droga

Aruba
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

FUNDACION

Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

Diabetic Foundation

Arubano

Tel: 583-3808

Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor

pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

Women in Difficulties

Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

Antiqueshop

ROCOCO PLAZA

Tanki Leendert rd. 4A

OPEN : Mon - Frid NON-STOP

9 AM - 5 PM ph 7415640

Saturday 9am - 1pm

SALE SALE SALE

www.antiquesaruba.com

Fleamarket Sunday 4 May

Climate changes to result in bird, reptile shifts

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (AP) —

As temperatures climb across the American Southwest, researchers have found some species will win, but others stand to lose — and lose big.

The U.S. Geological Survey and researchers from the University of New Mexico and Northern Arizona University released a report this week that takes a closer look at some of the effects climate change is likely to have on species such as the desert tortoise and the pinyon jay.

The jay stands to lose nearly one-third of its breeding range, while other birds could lose as much as 80 percent by the end of the century. On the other hand, the tortoise is the only reptile studied that isn't projected to see a decrease in suitable habitat.

The researchers wanted to provide a "crystal ball" for land managers in the Southwest so they could make more informed decisions as conditions become warmer and drier and vegetation changes, said lead author Charles van Riper, a USGS ecologist in Tucson.

"Each individual species is going to have its own response, and some are going to benefit from change and others won't," he said. The study focuses on ecosystems within the Sonoran Desert and the Colorado



This undated image provided by the U.S. Geological Survey shows a male desert tortoise near Palm Springs, Calif.

Associated Press

Plateau, but researchers also included the rest of the Western U.S., parts of which have been grappling with severe drought for years. Birds and reptiles make up most of the region's biodiversity, the researchers said.

What will make or break a species' ability to live through a changing climate is whether they are generalists or specialists. Those creatures that nest only in certain trees or eat very specific foods will have the hardest time.

Those species that already

deal with a wide range of temperatures in the places they live and aren't picky when it comes to diet will benefit the most, according to the report.

The jay, for example, depends on pinon groves throughout the high desert and stands to lose between one-quarter and 31 percent of its breeding range as warmer, drier conditions wipe out more pinon trees. Other birds such as the migrating Williamson's sapsucker and the sage thrasher could lose as much as 80 percent by the end of the century. Land managers throughout the West already deal with numerous threatened and endangered species — from the lesser prairie chicken in Texas and New Mexico to California's desert slender salamander. □



This undated image provided by the U.S. Geological Survey shows a pinyon jay.

Associated Press

La Vida Loca
Call Now
741-8861
Where dreams come true
Massage & Escort services
**BEAUTIFUL
LATIN
WOMEN
for adults**
Sweet and Sensual
Service 24/7



Honey Dolls 24/7
Massage and escort service
Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery
Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders
Red Light Tour
Bachelor Party Specialized, the best in the Caribbean
Call: 565-9535



Critic's Notebook: Spring movies offer surprises

JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Sandwiched between the chest-thumping ambition of awards season and the swaggering spectacle of summer, spring movie-going is usually an afterthought, a limbo for films not bankable enough for July or highbrow enough for the Oscars. But it might actually be the best time of year for the movies. In springtime — particularly this year — the movies come alive. It's not that the movies of March and April have been so tremendous. Many of them are flawed. But imperfection isn't something that should be papered over with big-budget engineering or test-screened away into sleeker products. Instead, these leftovers and oddities offer something that can be harder to find later in the year when so many films come pre-packaged, whether as awards bait or box-office juggernauts: a sense of surprise. Who would have thought a movie based on a toy line ("The Lego Movie") would prove to be both inventive and slyly subversive? Who would have predicted a documentary made by a novice filmmaker about palling around with his brother's rock band ("Mistaken for Strangers") would turn out a comic but tender portrait of brotherhood? And how often do we see filmmakers with the talent and proclivity for darkness of Darren Aronofsky entrusted with a \$130-million movie ("Noah")?

Opening Friday are two of the year's best films: Jim Jarmusch's "Only Lovers Left Alive" and David Gordon Green's "Joe." Both are movies with their own distinct rhythm, made by filmmakers who have long charted their own path. Jarmusch and Green are shape-shifters who, in these films, feel like they're in their most natural shape.

"Only Lovers Left Alive" is about two long-living vampires (Tilda Swinton, Tom Hiddleston) who have



This image released by Sony Pictures Classics shows Tilda Swinton, left, and Tom Hiddleston in a scene from "Only Lovers Left Alive."

passed the centuries not sucking blood, but soaking up culture. Languorous and pensive but also dryly comedic, it's one of Jarmusch's best.

"Joe," based on the novel by Larry Brown, stars Nicolas Cage in a performance that will remind many of why they once put their faith in his talent. It's a kind of modern-day Western, uprooted from the Mississippi of the book and placed in the backwoods of Texas, where Cage's Joe is a former convict trying to stay out of trouble. The director David Gordon Green uses non-professional actors (including an exceptionally raw performance from an elderly Austin homeless man, Gary Poulter, who died after production) and real locations that give "Joe" a naturalism you can feel. But that's far from all. Opening last week was Jonathan Glazer's beautiful sci-fi horror "Under the Skin," one of the most striking films to come along in some time. With Scarlett Johansson as a predator extraterrestrial, the movie looks at Earth (Scotland, specifically) through alien eyes. There is plenty to marvel at in the view, but also a lot to be disturbed by.

Like "Noah," (which some objected to for extrapolating an environmental sub-

text from the Biblical tale), not everyone will go for "Under the Skin," but few are likely to forget it. These are movies that provoke a response. Whether you're on their side or not, that's a good thing. The same might be said for Lars von Trier's much talked-about "Nymphomaniac" (with Charlotte Gainsbourg, Shia LaBeouf, Stellan Skarsgard) a far funnier film than you'd expect, given its reputation for graphic sex. Each of the two "volumes" of the film are on video-on-demand, a still relatively recent phenomenon where, with the click of the remote, you can immediately decide for yourself about the latest sensation from one of cinema's most interesting and infuriating directors. (The superb, mysterious French film "Stranger by the Lake" also uses explicit sex for an eerily placid murder thriller set at a lakeside cruising spot for gay men.)

But for a theatrical experience, the best thing going right now might be Wes Anderson's "The Grand Budapest Hotel," a movie that has, in a slowly expanding release, become Anderson's highest-grossing worldwide. With an Oscar-worthy performance by Ralph Fiennes as a fastidious concierge,

it's been called Anderson's most superficial movie (for its candied set design) and his deepest (for its melancholy nostalgia of a more



The serene gentleness of the switch-at-birth Japanese film "Like Father, Like Son"; and "Veronica Mars," innovatively released, snappiness intact.

With such rich offerings, the movies are off to a very good start in 2014.

'Divergent' film finale to be released in 2 parts

BOSTON (AP) — Aerosmith's Steven Tyler and Joe Perry have recorded a new arrangement of "Dream On" to honor victims of the Boston Marathon bombings. The rockers are accompanied by the Southern California Children's Chorus in the video of their signature hit.

Aerosmith had performed "Dream On" during the Boston Strong Concert benefit last May.

refined, pre-World War II era). It's both.

Any Errol Morris documentary is an event, and that's no different for his latest, "The Unknown Known," in which he spars helplessly with former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. But the movie isn't about Morris' failure to get Rumsfeld to open up; it's about Rumsfeld's smug refusal to re-examine the past. It's one of the most ironic films you'll ever see.

How about animated films? There's the hugely charming, hand-drawn, Oscar-nominated "Ernest and Celestine," produced by the maker of "The Triplets of Belleville" and also released in an English version with voices by Forest Whitaker, Paul Giamatti and others. It's a delightful picture book of a movie. The final movie from Japanese animation master Hayao Miyazaki, □

The song is part of the ESPN special "Dream On: Stories from Boston's Strongest" that will first air Saturday on ABC. Part of the "E:60" news magazine series, the hour-long show will be broadcast again on ESPN on Tuesday, the anniversary of the attacks.

Three people were killed and more than 260 were injured when two bombs exploded near the finish line of the 2013 marathon. □



In this Aug. 31, 2013 file photo, actor and director James Franco poses for photographers on the red carpet for the screening of the film "Child Of God" at the 70th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy.

Associated Press

James Franco not nervous about Broadway debut

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — James Franco insists he's not been nervous at all about making his Broadway debut, not even before his first night in front of more than a thousand people.

"Sounds like I'm bragging. I just wasn't," says the actor, writer and student. "I've learned that if you work with people that you trust, that you depend on, then you just flow with it."

One of those people is his director Anna D. Shapiro, a Tony Award-winner who looks over at him during a joint interview in the empty mezzanine of the Longacre Theatre with a mixture of puzzlement and respect.

"He's not nervous. He's not lying," she says. "Whatever he needs to do to convince himself to do what he does, I don't care. I like the guy who shows up every day, so I don't care what does it." Whether it's ego or confidence, Franco is just a guy who doesn't doubt himself. From acting in TV and films like "Pineapple Express" and "Spider-Man" to screenwriting, directing and producing, or writing a novel, being an artist and

studying for postgraduate degrees, Franco jumps in. So this matinee idol multitasker naturally has been eyeing the one place in show business he hasn't really dominated — the stage. Franco has chosen to make his Times Square bow in "Of Mice and Men," John Steinbeck's play adapted from his own classic novel.

Franco co-stars with Chris O'Dowd as two tragic migrant workers trying to make their way through the aftermath of drought and the Depression in 1930s America. Because O'Dowd's Lennie is mentally handicapped, Franco's George acts as Lennie's guardian. The play also features Jim Norton and Leighton Meester.

"I've got the best: I've got an awesome, classic American play. I've got an awesome director. I've got awesome co-stars. It's not going to get better," says Franco. "If it fails, I'm not going to feel bad because I did everything possible. Absolutely everything possible. So it's not on me."

Franco in person is amiable but slightly smug, a scruffy guy who loves to talk

about his creative thinking and yet looks overworked, stretched thin and sleep-deprived. He mentions that Lady Gaga recently stopped by backstage, as if such a thing weren't even a little bit odd.

The off-putting squinty sneer he was so vilified for wearing as an Oscar host reappears at times and his outsized confidence combined with a puppy-like naivete seem a dangerous gambit in these cynical days, as his recent Instagram flirtation with a 17-year-old proved.

When asked the exact moment when he knew he could accomplish the rare task of impressing critics and the public on his debut, he looks slightly confused. The interesting answer comes from his director: "He's never not thought that."

Franco says he'd been thinking about Broadway five years ago when the idea of teaming up with Shapiro on "Of Mice and Men" was first discussed. Plans fell through but the pair found a way to make it work this season.

"I've always been a huge theater fan," he says. □

Comedian offers serious guide to career success



This photo provided by Quirk Books shows the cover of Carol Leifer's book, "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Crying." Leifer's memoir about work lessons she's learned, was published Tuesday, April 8, 2014, by Quirk Books.

Associated Press



LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Comedian and writer Carol Leifer has something serious to say in her new book, "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Crying." Why listen to a comic? First, it's important to remember that with show business, the accent is on "business." If Leifer could make it in that unforgiving industry, she may be able to help others make it anywhere. Second, she has legitimacy on the topic. In her 37th year in the industry, Leifer is an Emmy-nominated writer for shows including "Seinfeld" and a string of Oscar ceremonies, has starred in five cable

comedy specials and is co-executive producer on Lifetime's "Devious Maids." Third, it's more fun to read a how-to guide with anecdotes about Jerry Seinfeld, Bryan Cranston and Frank Sinatra than one without them. Even the dozen-plus jacket blurbs are a kick.

"Funny and sage. A great read. I even loved the parts that weren't about me" is Paul Reiser's comment on the book, published this week by Quirk Books.

And from filmmaker Judd Apatow: "The best memoir of the year (not written by the victim of a horrible crime)." Leifer, who wrote the best-selling book "When You Lie about Your Age, the Terrorists Win," was initially approached to write a straight-ahead memoir. "But the theme that kept popping up was 'Wow, what I learned from this experience,' or the takeaway from another," she said.

For example, it was a thrill to perform on Johnny Carson's "The Tonight Show." But the valuable background: It took 12 years and 22 auditions for her to get there.

"So much of success in any career is tenacity and persistence. After 18 auditions I could have said, 'No, thanks, I'm not showing up for audition No. 19,'" she said. But she did. She also hung in with a manager who vowed he would book her to work with Sinatra but instead had her playing restaurants on the New Jersey turnpike. She complained to him, he reassured her, and she worked the unglamorous jobs.

"Then it turned out he knew Jilly Rizzo (Sinatra's close friend), and he got me to open for Frank in Vegas," Leifer said. "That was another lesson to share: Keep your head down and keep working hard, and you can have the greatest moment of your career out of the deepest valley." □

Jeb in the Vortex



MAUREEN DOWD
© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON - The epic sibling drama of the Republican Party is finally coming to a climax. For many years, George and Barbara Bush assumed that their second son, Jeb, would be a winner in politics, while W., their eldest, would be a loser.

Jeb was the prince of the dynasty, destined to be king. (Poppy Bush would only call their dynasty "the d word," wrinkling his nose in a vain attempt to seem like a Greenwich populist.)

The raffish Roman candle, W., on the other hand, was discouraged by his mother from running for governor of Texas when his father was in the White House. Bar also did not want W. to run for that office in 1993 at the same time that Jeb was running for governor of Florida, for fear that W. would divert too much money from the Bush Rolodex of donors and turn the contest into "a People magazine story," as Jeb resignedly called it back when he told me he couldn't "control" his older brother.

Democrats began mocking them during their twin races as "Tweedledee and Tweedledum," especially after W. began stealing Jeb's best campaign lines. Yet when I covered the fraternal gubernatorial bids in the South, it was quickly apparent that W. had a crackle that Jeb did not have, not to mention a crack consultant: Karl Rove. W. was driven by a zeal to prove his parents wrong, one of the most powerful impulses on earth.

Jeb, the Good Son, seemed more phlegmatic, bogged down in wonky discourse about "visioning," "prioritizing," "empowering" and "sharing a good exchange of ideas."

Jeb lost his race and W. won his, starting the reversal that would lead to W.'s becoming the black-sheep king, once Jeb had helped secure Florida for him. Now Jeb has to figure out if W. has fouled the waters forever or if Americans, lulled by the ex-president's winsome paintings, have grown less disgusted by his disastrous wars, misadventures in torture and economic belly flop. Jeb's father desperately wants him to run, and his mother now says it would be OK, despite her reservations about two families trading Air Force One back and forth.

As Hillary Clinton prepares to restore her dynasty, Jeb Bush is dropping a handkerchief about restoring his.

He has campaigned for Republicans around the country, and influential donors in the GOP have started a draft-Jeb movement.

He was the speaker at a VIP dinner in Las Vegas with Sheldon Adelson. He has reached out to Southern evangelical leaders. And he had a star turn at the 25th anniversary celebration of his father's presidency over the weekend at the George H.W. Bush library in College Station, Texas.

But is Jeb's race over before it begins? He would be running, after all, to lead a party he seems to disdain, a party that has become so fragmented and pulled to the right that it would rather lose the election than be led by someone as moderate as Jeb Bush. Even W. is considered a liberal in today's fire-breathing GOP.

"I do think we've lost our way," Jeb said in an interview on stage with a Fox News reporter, urging Republicans to move out of Crazy Town: "We need to elect candidates that have a vision that is bigger and broader, and candidates that are organized around winning the election, not making a point."

Sounding nostalgic for a world before Dick Cheney, Sarah Palin and Ted Cruz, the 61-year-old said he would run only if he could bring a "hopeful" message and campaign "joyfully," avoiding "the vortex of the mud fight."

Then he stumbled into the vortex by repeating his support for Common Core education standards and by trying to inject some compassion into the immigration issue, which sends older, white Tea Partiers into frenzies of fanaticism.

"Yes, they broke the law, but it's not a felony," he said of illegal immigrants sneaking into the country to provide for their families. "It's an act of love." (Jeb has been married to the Mexican-born Columba for 40 years.) Karl Rove and Bill Kristol mused that Jeb's "Bulworth" moment, as Politico dubbed it, may show he's been out of the mix for too long.

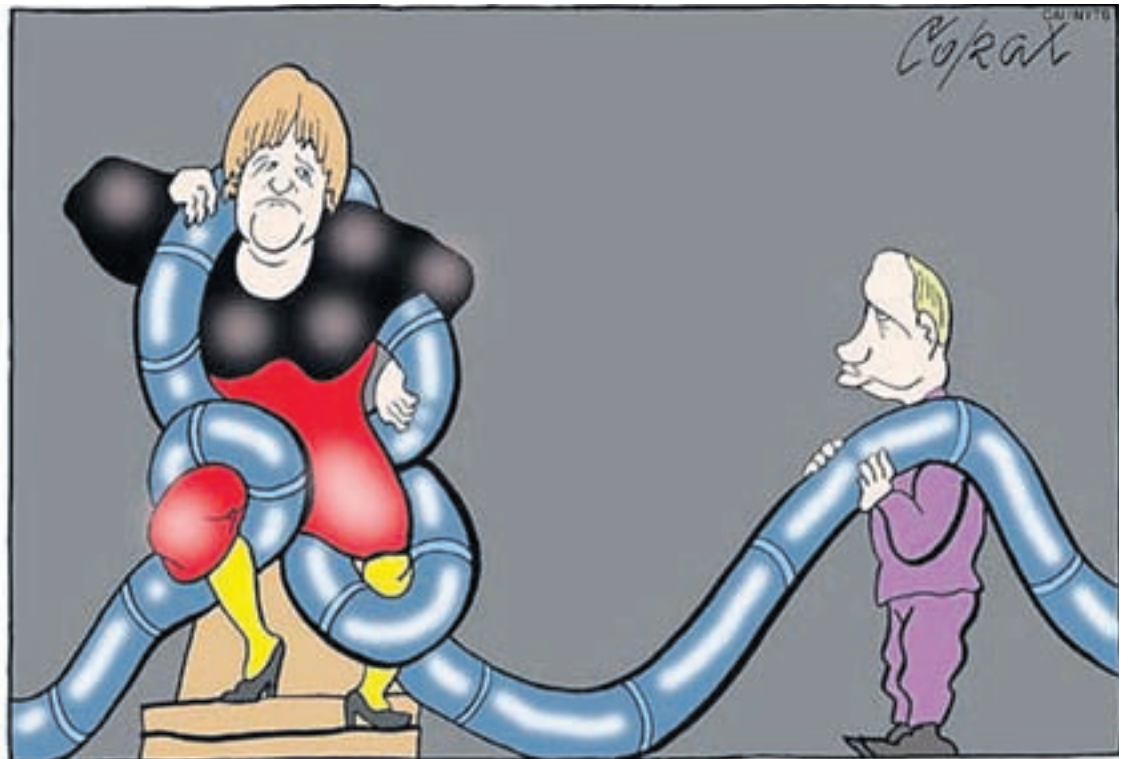
Conservative columnist Byron York suggested that the "mud-fight-averse" Jeb "just doesn't seem like a politician in top fighting shape." Michelle Malkin tweeted: "He's pro-amnesty, pro-Common Core, pro-Big Business & he wants to be president. #CancelJebBush." Marco Rubio said he would not step aside for his mentor in a presidential race. And Stephen Colbert eulogized, "He will be missed."

Some of those close to Jeb say he's serious about running and bringing back a civil tone to Republican politics. Others say he needs to act as though he's running to keep his speaking fees high and options open. Rush Limbaugh thinks Jeb's "act of love" comment was a gambit to tick off the Tea Party and "get the conservative backlash to him out of the way."

Jeb thinks Republicans have lost their way.

He may soon learn that a lot of conservatives think they have found their way - and it's not the joyful, loving, government-can-be-a-force-for-good way. It's the mean, cruel, gut-the-government way.

When this crowd thinks of A Thousand Points of Light, they're thinking of torches as they march toward the Capitol. □



Playing Hockey With Putin



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
© 2014 New York Times

Shortly before the Sochi Olympics, Russian President Vladimir Putin played in an exhibition hockey game there. In retrospect, he was clearly warming up for his takeover of Crimea. Putin doesn't strike me as a chess player, in geopolitical terms. He prefers hockey, without a referee, so elbowing, tripping and cross-checking are all permitted. Never go to a hockey game with Putin and expect to play by the rules of touch football. The struggle over Ukraine is a hockey game, with no referee. If we're going to play, we, the Europeans and the pro-Western Ukrainians need to be serious. If we're not, we need to tell the Ukrainians now: Cut the best deal with Putin that you can.

Are we serious? It depends on the meaning of the word "serious." It starts with recognizing what a huge lift it will be to help those Ukrainians who want to break free of Russia's orbit. Are we and our allies ready - through the International Monetary Fund - to finance Ukraine's massive rebuilding and fuel needs, roughly \$14 billion for starters, knowing that this money is going to a Ukrainian government that, before the overthrow of the previous president, ranked 144 out of 177 on the Transparency International list of most corrupt countries in the world, equal with Nigeria?

Moreover, we can't help Ukraine unless we and the European Union have a serious renewable energy and economic sanc-

tions strategy - which requires us to sacrifice - to undermine Putin and Putinism, because Ukraine will never have self-determination as long as Putin and Putinism thrive. Putin's foreign policy and domestic policy are inextricably linked: His domestic policy of looting Russia and keeping himself permanently in power with oil and gas revenue, despite a weakening economy, seems to require adventures like Ukraine that gin up nationalism and anti-Westernism to distract the Russian public. And are we ready to play dirty, too? Putin is busy using pro-Russian Ukrainian proxies to take over government buildings in eastern Ukraine - to lay the predicate either for a Russian invasion there or de facto control there by Russia's allies.

Finally, being serious about Russia means being serious about learning from our big mistake after the Berlin Wall fell. And that was thinking that we could expand NATO - when Russia was at its weakest and most democratic - and Russians wouldn't care. It was thinking we could treat a democratic Russia like an enemy, as if the Cold War were still on, and expect Russia to cooperate with us as if the Cold War were over - and not produce an anti-Western backlash like Putinism.

As historian Walter Russell Mead put it in a blog post: "The Big Blini that the West has never faced up to (is): What is our Russia policy? Where does the West see Russia fitting into the international system? Ever since the decisions to expand NATO and the EU were taken in the Clinton administration, Western policy towards Russia ... had two grand projects for the post-Soviet space: NATO and the EU would expand into the Warsaw Pact areas and into the former Soviet Union, but Russia itself was barred from both. ... As many people pointed out in the 1990s, this strategy was asking for trouble."

One of those pointing that out was George Kennan, the architect of containment and opponent of NATO expansion. I inter-

viewed him about it in this column on May 2, 1998, right after the Senate ratified NATO expansion. Kennan was 94. He had been a U.S. ambassador in Moscow. He knew we were not being serious. "I think it is the beginning of a new Cold War," Kennan said to me of NATO expansion. "I think the Russians will gradually react quite adversely and it will affect their policies. I think it is a tragic mistake. There was no reason for this whatsoever. No one was threatening anybody else. This expansion would make the founding fathers of this country turn over in their graves. We have signed up to protect a whole series of countries, even though we have neither the resources nor the intention to do so in any serious way. (NATO expansion) was simply a lighthearted action by a Senate that has no real interest in foreign affairs."

"What bothers me is how superficial and ill informed the whole Senate debate was," added Kennan. "I was particularly bothered by the references to Russia as a country dying to attack Western Europe. Don't people understand? Our differences in the Cold War were with the Soviet Communist regime. And now we are turning our backs on the very people who mounted the greatest bloodless revolution in history to remove that Soviet regime. And Russia's democracy is as far advanced, if not farther, as any of these countries we've just signed up to defend from Russia. It shows so little understanding of Russian history and Soviet history. Of course, there is going to be a bad reaction from Russia, and then (the NATO expanders) will say that we always told you that is how the Russians are - but this is just wrong."

We need a strategy to help Ukraine and to undermine Putinism today - and to reintegrate Russia tomorrow. It's a big, big lift. So let's be honest with ourselves and with the Ukrainians. If Putin's playing hockey and we're not, Ukrainians need to know that now. □

In France, Quaint Course Is Viciously Bumpy

SAM BORDEN

© 2014 New York Times

WALLERS, France - On one side, the rock was as flinty and jagged as a chipped tooth. On the other, its edge was caved in, so the surface sheared away sharply. Squatting in the dirt, Clement Huchez examined the stone, rolling it in his hands for a few moments. Then he slid it into the rubble puzzle in front of him and exclaimed, "It's perfect!" Perfect, of course, is a relative term. Huchez, 17, was hunched on the side of a narrow, dusty road about half an hour from the Belgium border. He, along with several classmates from a nearby school, was repairing a section of cobblestones that is part of the famed Paris-Roubaix cycling race - an event known traditionally, if not affectionately, as the Hell of the North.

To some, the nickname is actually an understatement. While casual fans may think of competitive cycling as a series of arduous mountain climbs, tricky descents and powerful sprints over smoothly paved surfaces, Paris-Roubaix (pronounced pa-REE-roo-BAY) includes about 31 miles of rough, rugged and raw cobblestones.

Yes, there are other sections of the race - this year's edition, to be held Sunday, features a course about 160 miles long - but the heart of Paris-Roubaix is the pavé, or cobbles. They are quaint. They are charming. They are, mostly, murderous.

"To be honest, I think if you want to go and race there, you have to be pretty stupid," said Heinrich Haussler, a veteran rider whose best finish at Paris-Roubaix is seventh, in 2009. "Your hands are shaking, your wrists are throbbing, your shoulders are stiff, your back is aching, your neck is pounding, your ..."

His voice trailed off, and then he launched into a detailed description of what a rider's most delicate area feels like after six or seven hours on a rattling bike seat.

"It's like a war zone in there," he concluded.

Some top riders avoid Paris-Roubaix altogether - Lance Armstrong never competed - but many embrace the unique challenge of the cobbles. Bradley Wiggins, who won the 2012 Tour de France and a gold medal at the London Olympics, has said that winning Paris-Roubaix is one of his main goals. But it will not be easy. So-called classics specialists - riders whose heavier body type gives them an edge on the bumpy cobbles - generally fare best in one-day races like Paris-

"Maybe they are the crazy ones, too."

Gouvenou would know: He was one of those crazy ones, winning the amateur version of Paris-Roubaix before a professional career in which he was a teammate of the former Tour champion Greg LeMond. On Monday, Gouvenou and other officials examined the course for this year's race, paying special attention to the sections near Pont Gibus, an area that will also be a part of the fifth stage of this year's Tour de France.

Christian Prudhomme, the

Every Paris-Roubaix participant has a story about the cobbles, and the Trouée d'Arenberg is a common villain. The race's Hell of the North nickname actually comes from the destruction that occurred in the region during World War I, but many riders take it more literally and point to the Trouée d'Arenberg as the most infernal portion of the day. Crashes are common in the cobblestone sections, particularly when they are made slick by foul weather that sends rain and mud into the cracks between

one of the others, Mons-en-Pévèle.

"The five-stars are basically just ridiculous," U.S. rider Tyler Farrar said. "You look at it, and it's not even a road. It's just a collection of pointy stones."

To help alleviate the effect of riding over the cobbles, Farrar and other riders change just about everything in their equipment setup for Paris-Roubaix. Sleek bicycle frames are swapped out for more heavy-duty models; fatter tires are used, and they are inflated to lower pressures; different gears are installed.



A stretch of cobblestone road, typical of the Paris-Roubaix cycling race terrain, in Wallers, France, April 7, 2014. Known as the Hell of the North, the thigh-rattling, wrist-pounding, intestines-shaking race includes more than 31 miles, of nonstop rattling over rough, rugged and raw cobblestones.

(Agnes Dherbeys/The New York Times)

Roubaix. Fabian Cancellara and Tom Boonen, the two favorites, have won the event seven times between them.

"There are two categories of riders with Paris-Roubaix: those who love it and those who hate it," said Thierry Gouvenou, the technical director of the Amaury Sports Organization, which oversees Paris-Roubaix and the Tour de France. "The ones who hate it are the small ones who are good at hills. The ones who love it are the warriors, the tall ones."

He laughed and said,

general director of the Tour, rode with Gouvenou along the course and smiled as their car left the Trouée d'Arenberg, a section of Paris-Roubaix whose forest beauty belies its treacherous cobbles.

"Everyone will have to deal with the cobbles at some point in the Tour de France," Prudhomme said. "That is good. But those cobbles are not as difficult as Arenberg."

He added with a wry grin, "We do not put Arenberg in the Tour de France because then everyone would go mad."

stones.

Even on a dry day, the potential for an accident looms: In 2006, George Hincapie, a U.S. rider, had his handlebars disconnect from his bicycle's frame. He continued to steer for a moment, as if trying to shift in the air, before he tumbled violently to the ground.

Race organizers rate each section of cobblestones on a scale of one to five stars, five being the toughest, and the Trouée d'Arenberg is one of just three sections to earn the coveted (feared?) five-star designation. Hincapie crashed on

Then there is the endless taping: Many riders put wrap after wrap on their handlebars, and their own wrists, in a mostly fruitless attempt to reduce vibration. Strategy is critical, too, as riders often battle to get to the front of the pack heading into the cobble sections so they can set their own path (and avoid potential crashes) instead of just following the crowd. That puts a premium on the training ride the competitors take before the race, although the fact-finding mission can do more harm than good, Farrar said. □